

SATURDAY REVIEW

POLITICS, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 2,942 Vol. 113.

16 March 1912.

[REGISTERED AS A
NEWSPAPER.] 6d.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE		PAGE
NOTES OF THE WEEK.	321	MIDDLE ARTICLES (continued):		CORRESPONDENCE (continued):	
LEADING ARTICLES:		Past and Present Man. By Sir Ray		Whites in West Africa. By Mary	
The Naval Estimates.	324	Lankester	332	Gaunt	337
Mr. George's Next?	325	A Dog. By Filson Young.	334	Mr. MacOwan and the Stage Society.	
The Tory Housing Bill	326	The Giant's Gift to Pish. By George		By Norman MacOwan	338
China—A New Chapter	327	A. B. Dewar	336	Is Canada Over-borrowing? By	
Reason and Vivisection	328	CORRESPONDENCE:		H. K. S. Hemming	338
The Hardy Norseman's Feat	329	Industrial Malingering. By G. Bernard		REVIEWS:	
THE CITY	330	Shaw	336	Blackening Boswell	339
INSURANCE:		Jack Cade 1912.	337	The Americans	339
The Scottish Widows' Fund Society	330	Feminist Window-breakers. By		The Little Brother of Everyman.	340
MIDDLE ARTICLES:		Marion Meikleham	337	The Arab at Home	341
"Milestones." By John Palmer	331	The Despised Englishman. By W. H.		SHORTER NOTICES	342
Some Handel Manuscripts. By John		Eyre	337		
F. Runciman	332				

We beg to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications; and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

On Monday the Miners' Conference met in London and the coal owners from all the areas also met, both sides considering Mr. Asquith's proposal for a joint conference. It was hailed as a favourable omen of a settlement when both the miners and the coal owners agreed to meet together on Tuesday. There appeared to be something more even than this. The miners, apparently in response to Mr. Asquith's invitation to consent to the discussion of their wages schedule, issued a statement that they were prepared to discuss settlement by districts, but still maintained their old position about the minimum. They will not take the question of the schedule of rates out of the hands of the executive, nor the 5s. minimum for men and 2s. for boys. These once settled, they will discuss other matters locally. The joint conference went on during the week with no more news for the public.

Thursday had generally been spoken of as the day when the House of Commons would be invited to consider the position, if the joint conference had not come to an agreement. But Thursday passed, and the House of Commons was occupied not with the strike but with the Naval Estimates. That the conference had not broken up was the one faintly hopeful feature of the situation, and on Friday it still remained so far hopeful for the same reason. Even those who maintain that the Government ought earlier to have brought matters to discussion in Parliament could hardly blame Mr. Asquith for keeping the joint conference in being as long as there was the slightest possibility of keeping it together. Without the joint conference there can be no hope of any settlement.

In Germany, Austria, Belgium, and America there are extensive coal troubles, though not so serious as our own. Still the strike in Westphalia is very considerable, and miners to the number of 220,000, or 75 per cent. of the workers, have ceased work. Our own strike has been remarkably peaceful so far; though one case of intimidation at Sheffield by a body of 200 miners was mentioned in the House of Commons on Wednesday. Mr. McKenna stated, in reply to the assertion that there are hundreds of such cases, that he had no information. However this may be, there has been nothing so serious during the three weeks of our strike as the rioting and fighting in Westphalia between the police and the miners, one of whom was shot. As here, the disputed question of wages is being examined by the Government, and the question is to be discussed in the Reichstag.

Dalba's attempt to assassinate the King of Italy has fortunately failed, and it has given the Roman populace an opportunity of showing their patriotism and affection for their Sovereign. He deserves all the acclamations he may receive, for he is one of the most self-sacrificing and hard-working monarchs in an age when these qualities are essential to the kingly office. But the war, however popular in Rome, is becoming a grievous burden throughout the country. This unfortunately will show itself more clearly as the weeks pass. The attempted murder may be merely the outrage of a fanatic; let us hope it is not symptomatic.

Who can believe that an Italian attacking force, after charging 6000 of the enemy with the bayonet and driving them out of strong positions, could only lose three officers and twenty-six soldiers? We have now the Turkish version of the Tobruk fight, according to which the Italians lost 2000 men, while they admit heavy Turkish and Arab casualties. Of course, none of these statements can be accurate. But the Italian papers are becoming abusive, and blame the Powers for not making the Turks submit. The "Corriere della Sera" also accuses the Egyptian Government of conniving at the passage through their territory of arms and men. This we know to be false. Lord Kitchener is inter-

preting the duties of a neutral over-strictly, if anything, and is being soundly rated by the Turks in consequence.

The Navy Estimates, after two years in which the ratio of building to the German programme has been five to four in Dreadnoughts, restore for this year the standard of two keels to one. But it must be clearly grasped that the new provisions do not make up the arrears of shipbuilding left over from the McKenna period. Since the German programme is likely to expand within the next few weeks to include three Dreadnoughts, we presume that Mr. Churchill is prepared in his estimates for six. The published estimates allow only for four; but, as Mr. Churchill explains in the opening paragraph, "these estimates have been framed on the assumption that the existing programmes of other naval Powers will not be increased". We hold that, owing to arrears, the minimum for safety, in a correct reading of the Imperial formula, is eight Dreadnoughts.

In the Royal Navy three officers have now reached the lieutenants' list who have been trained under the new scheme. It is interesting, therefore, to look back on their careers and see what chance they may have had of systematic training in the various difficult subjects included in the ordinary careers of a seaman, an engineer or the soldier training of a marine. The seaman and the engineer must acquire seamanship, navigation and pilotage, wireless telegraphy and all forms of signalling, gunnery and torpedo work, and finally the training of an engineer officer.

To give systematic training in the short period from May 1908, when they entered as midshipmen, or three and a half years, would require considerable organisation, for ships spend much time in harbour where running engines, handling ships and navigation cannot be practically learned. One officer belonged to no less than seven ships between May 1908 and November 1911, and the other two to five each. It is difficult to see how thorough systematic instruction in so many subjects can possibly be hoped for, or that the instructors will understand or sympathise with their pupils when shifts from ship to ship are so frequent.

If Mr. Churchill, as First Lord of the Admiralty, "prefers" the Thames dockyards to the dockyards of the North, irrespective of cost, why should he not "prefer" his own country to the foreigner? It is the old dilemma upon which every doctrinaire free trader is hoist as soon as he begins to behave practically as a business man. Mr. Churchill's behaviour in this matter of the Thames contracts has been politic and wise; but, as Mr. Hunt insinuated to the House on Tuesday, it is dereliction of the first sacred principle of free trade—that cheapness is all. Free traders still cling firmly to this principle in full-dress debates. In practice—as in Mr. Lloyd George's Patent Law and in the Trade Boards—they have abandoned it long ago.

The feature of the third day's debate on the Army Estimates was Mr. Amery's attack on the general principles of Lord Haldane's schemes. Though a civilian, Mr. Amery is a considerable authority on matters of military organisation; and has published books on the subject. Very rightly he pointed out that the strength of the much belauded expeditionary force in no way depends on the possible situations it may have to face. It is simply based on the number of units who happen to be at home in order to furnish the necessary drafts of men to maintain our forces in India and the Colonies. Nothing more unscientific really has ever been put forward as the sum total of a nation's requirements than this body. Moreover, when we come to look into matters, the regular units at home are quite incapable of furnishing the number of men required. Nearly the whole of the first-class Army Reserve will be exhausted at once; and it will be necessary to fall back upon the Special Reserve—a partially trained body of men—in order to make up the numbers.

Our Regular Reserve is not really an Army Reserve at all. It is simply a regimental reserve; and, as in the case of the last war, it will be soon exhausted. But the real defect of the system is that even this will not produce an homogeneous whole. In Continental armies the regular units on mobilisation will be made up of men who have just left the colours. In our case, on the other hand, a large proportion of the reservists will have been away from the colours for more than five years; and it will be some time before the expeditionary force can be a really mobile force. After this it is difficult to see how the wastage of war is to be provided for. Mr. Seely did not answer this question. He simply repeated what Lord Haldane has told us already, that the expeditionary force will be ready—such as it is—to sail at once. But if this should ever be necessary, what becomes of the stock Haldanean argument that there will be a period of grace for six months for the Territorial Force to receive their real training, whilst the Regulars are still amongst us? In fact, it is becoming increasingly clear that Lord Haldane's "optimistic generalities" lead to the most hopeless confusion.

The date of introducing the Home Rule Bill is now definitely fixed for Easter week. Tuesday or Wednesday, said Mr. Asquith, but he was not allowing for Mr. Bonar Law's meeting in Belfast on the 9th. Thursday is the likely day. The Easter holiday will be short enough—a few days; but a fortnight will probably be allowed to the House at Whitsuntide. Meantime where is the Disestablishment Bill? It is now doubtful if we shall even see it before the Easter holiday. The Government are preparing a bad mess for themselves.

Who has seen the report of the Committee on Irish Finance? Is it to be published in advance of the Home Rule Bill? Is it ever to be published? These questions have been put repeatedly to the Government in the House of Commons; and the Government has shifted uneasily, and said nothing definite about it. Many suspect that more than one Nationalist member has seen it; and that the report is being withheld from publication (1) because it does not altogether support the Government's ideas of Irish finance; (2) because it will be useful for Home Rule speakers on the Government side to have better official information on the subject than the Opposition. Lord Londonderry was as unsuccessful in the Lords on Monday as Unionists have been in the Commons. Lord Crewe did not know who had seen the report, though the question had been in the paper for ten days. Lord Londonderry's language was well within the occasion. "I do not think", he said, "a more discourteous action has ever been done by one Front Bench to another."

Mr. John Fitzgibbon, agitator, M.P., and member of the Congested Districts Board (by grace of the present Government), "came under review", to adopt Lord Ashby S. Ledgers' phrase, in the House of Lords on Wednesday. To this gentleman Mr. Birrell had written, "You cannot expect to be allowed to remain a member of the Board if you persist in making such speeches as those to which my attention has been called". He had before written to Mr. Fitzgibbon, "But at Ballindine you were as bad as ever". Lord Ashby S. Ledgers himself testified that "Mr. Fitzgibbon's conduct had been indefensible and improper". Even Lord Crewe, in his miserable shuffling apology, "did not attempt to make any defence of the speeches made by Mr. Fitzgibbon". Yet the Government allow this man to remain on the Congested Districts Board. Why? Because they are afraid to remove him.

A poor law debate was sprung on the House last Monday. The Irish Nationalists were in possession, but they retired, for their own reasons, in favour of the Labour party, who were to have a field-night of their own. Certainly they chose the most pressing subject of the day, a matter which any social-reforming Government that was its own master would put before

Home Rule and Welsh Disestablishment. The Unionist social reform committee came out strongly in this debate. Lord Alexander Thynne and others showed the futility of Mr. Burns' plan of dealing with poor law reform by sporadic orders in Council. Nothing but comprehensive legislation can even touch the case. Mr. Burns is becoming a pessimist, which he tries to conceal by affecting a tone of boisterous Mark Tapleyism. Mr. Burns does little because he really thinks nothing can be done. He turns poor law reform to clowning chaff about Poplar playing Eton at cricket.

The Local Government Board is the worst run of all departments, but it is doing one thing. It is rapidly removing children from the workhouse, and boarding them out with decent families. Mr. Burns says that an increasing number of people, rich and poor alike, are adopting Poor Law children. He would make it compulsory for every woman who kept more than two cats and one dog to adopt a Poor Law child, "to which she could divert some of the affection, a great deal of the cash, and nearly all the wasted sentiment". This is meant to be smart, but is rather silly. The child unwillingly adopted would be in unhappy case. If Mr. Burns wants to penalise fondness for pets, he should impose on it a tax not a child.

On Monday, in the House of Commons, Mr. Morrell attempted unsuccessfully to drive home a question at Mr. McKenna as to the proceedings of the Public Prosecutor against the "Syndicalist". Mr. Morrell, it appears, is vastly concerned for the freedom of the Press. The plea of freedom is in this case pedantry of a particularly dishonest kind. Freedom of the Press has never in this country meant freedom to be obscene, or, as in the "Syndicalist", freedom to incite to mutiny and murder.

The "Syndicalist" has invited soldiers to disobey their officers. The soldiers would be shot; but Mr. Morrell has, or has not, heard of Milton and the "Areopagitica", and so wants to let off the real offenders. The "Syndicalist" has also invited working-men to buy rifles and to learn to shoot straight. Moreover, in another of these publications, the "Dawn", working-men are told that if soldiers and extra policemen are employed to preserve order, it would be right and proper for working-men to shoot them. In this case, also, the Public Prosecutor has not hesitated to act. Certainly it is not a time to be lenient with offences of this kind. Fortunately, they come easily under the criminal law. We are glad, by the way, that Mr. Ramsay MacDonald was able to dissociate himself from exhortations of a like nature which recently appeared in "Forward", a labour newspaper of Glasgow.

Mr. Wheler's Tariff Reform resolution was ruled out of order on Tuesday evening, the Speaker holding that the resolution had already been covered by a fiscal amendment to the Address. So the field became clear for Sir Frederick Banbury on the vivisection of dogs. Sir Frederick would exclude dogs from vivisection because dogs are the friends of man. His argument would include anything that can be made a pet. The motion was ill-timed; for Mr. McKenna could justly plead that the report of the Vivisection Commission had only appeared that morning.

The changes suggested by the Commission are not great. Sir Frederick Banbury had observed that the Commissioners were in doubt whether to recommend that dogs and cats should be entirely excluded from physiological experiments; yet they got no further than recommending that dogs and cats should not be subject unless under the same conditions as the horse, ass, and mule, which must not be experimented on at all without a special certificate. Sentimentally there is a good case for the exclusion of dogs and cats; but scientifically it might be necessary to take them—for instance, in studying rabies. The Commis-

sioners have probably made the obvious compromise, as vivisection is not to be prohibited altogether. Do dogs or cats stand in such sentimental relations to man that we are called on to exclude them as we exclude ourselves and our fellow human beings? The anti-vivisectionists say, Why exclude human beings? For us at our present stage the reason is the same as that forbidding us to be cannibals; though we allow ourselves to eat certain members of the animal kingdom while fastidiously rejecting others.

"Are we not a Christian nation?" asked Mr. Birrell on Tuesday afternoon at the Westminster Palace Hotel. "Isn't it a pre-eminently desirable thing that there should always be a steady and constant supply of educated men who are able and ready to put crowns on the heads of our Kings and Queens, to read stately and moving prayers by the gravesides of our illustrious dead, and, what is still more important in our national life, to be ready always to invoke the god of battles when, with our hearts aflame, we go out to war, and then to sing psalms to the Prince of Peace when, sick and sorry, we are only too glad to come out of it?" This graceless clowning is bad policy, as well as bad manners. It will do the Government more harm than good. Mr. Birrell can surely play the funny man of the Cabinet to better advantage in other directions. Mr. Asquith should do with Mr. Birrell what Hamlet advised for the good of Polonius: "Let the doors be shut upon him, that he may play the fool nowhere but in his own house." Ireland is Mr. Birrell's house, though we should not like to say he was at home there.

It was curious to note the contrast between Mr. Birrell's jaunty approach to Disestablishment and his very sober treatment of the education question. On Disestablishment he was amusing himself vastly, stirring up the party feeling of his hearers, and raising cheap laughter by the way. But his appeal on the education question was all for breadth and toleration. The contrast was not accidental. Mr. Birrell learnt his lesson at the Education Department. Only by compromise can the Government save their face educationally; only by partisanship can they carry the Welsh Disestablishment Bill.

The suffragette trials and sentences still go on. Quite a large number are now doing hard labour. Two months is about the average term of imprisonment given, whether with or without hard labour, which makes less difference than appears. This will give them time enough to think seriously over their folly, to speak mildly. Probably many of them, in the quiet and undoubtedly melancholy reaction after all the excitement, will resolve to quit this business for ever. All the heroics of it have evaporated by now, and they see themselves as they are—foolish and misled women who broke a number of inoffensive tradesmen's windows. They will not be proud of themselves. There will, of course, always be hardened offenders, whom reflection will not cure. But one may hope they will not be many. Already several of the accused have shown a better spirit in Court—without insolence or defiance. The conspiracy proceedings have begun; but Miss Pankhurst is not facing them. She is still hiding from the police.

The non-militants have been busy defending themselves, intent on proving their complete unlikeness to the window-smashers, yet nearly always half-excusing them. One lady, it is true, has proposed a formal and general "suffragist" censure of the militants. Her proposal does not seem to be received with much enthusiasm. Mrs. Fawcett protests and protests her disapproval of militantism; but there is something in her letters which makes one feel, with Miss Gladys Pott, that in the disapproval of militantism there is considerable sympathy with the militants. Miss Robins pleads that their zeal for woman suffrage has become a religion. If it has, we may be pretty sure they have no other religion. Strangest of all is the

advice given by Lady Acheson and others. They tell the shopkeepers that the militants can never be cured; so they had better become suffragets at once to save their windows. Noble advice! Lady Acheson would join a pickpockets' gang to save her purse.

A Royal Commission is now ready to inquire into the methods of appointment and promotion in the Civil Service. Certainly it is time the examination system were put on trial. It has been in operation for more than forty years; and it should be possible to judge from evidence accumulated during so long a period how the open competitor compares with the Civil servant who is nominated. The appointment of this Commission is the more timely as there has recently been substitution on a large scale of nomination by Government for public competition in appointing to new offices. As Mr. Bonar Law pointed out at the Albert Hall, we are in obvious danger of drifting towards the "system of spoils to reward one party or another". The terms of reference of the Commission are wide enough to cover every aspect of the question. Their inquiries will cover the diplomatic and consular services, and occasional, as well as permanent, appointments. The enormous increase alone of the Civil Service justifies the inquiry. Since the Radicals came into government in 1906 nearly 3000 fresh offices have been created.

It was obviously right that the Lord Chamberlain should win the case against Mr. Cowan. It has been a pitiful squabble from the first. The statutes lose sight of the author's MS. when it enters the office of the King's Reader. But clearly all plays that are licensed must be filed for reference. The confusion at the Censor's office is bad enough as it is; and we should be sorry to make things worse by refusing to allow him to annex the MS. of the plays to which he has set his seal. If the plays were not upon record in his office, he would have no check whatever upon interpolations.

Mr. Cowan rushed into the courts too soon. His plays were rejected, and copies of his MSS. were about to be sent him at his request by courtesy of the Lord Chamberlain. Naturally when the Lord Chamberlain heard that he was being sued out of hand, they were not sent. The law was with him; but the advertisement was with Mr. Cowan. We entirely agree with the judge's opinion that the advertisement was out of all proportion to the merits or importance of the case. One public advantage arises from this unseemly business—authors know now, if they did not guess before, that the Lord Chamberlain, when he chooses to be disagreeable, can refuse to let an author read his own play—supposing he has the only copy in the world. In these circumstances he is able to prevent the author from corrupting himself, as well as from corrupting other people.

Naturally the purveyors of amusement are first to feel the pinch of a calamity like the coal strike. Theatre managers are anxious as to the coming weeks, even where they have not already found a difference. The strike will kill off the bad plays; finish off the long runs; and send off healthy beginners into a premature decline. It is true that picture theatres in the colliery districts reaped a plentiful harvest in the first few days. The colliers were on holiday. But there is not likely to be much of a demand for amusement of any kind, if the strike persists into the season.

The South Pole has happily been spared the succès de scandale of the North. No one doubts that Captain Amundsen was there; and we may note with satisfaction that, unlike Commander Peary, he shared the honours of success, as of work, with the companions of his journey. It seems that Captain Amundsen has not met Captain Scott; and does not know whether the Englishman has reached the Pole or not. Their respective bases were only 400 miles apart, and Captain Amundsen thinks it quite possible that Scott also has succeeded.

THE NAVAL ESTIMATES.

AFTER the war crisis of last autumn it is not too much to say that the country has the right to demand Naval Estimates which have some relation to its policy. It is no secret now that the policy of the country included the transfer of an expeditionary force of 150,000 men to France, and that the Admiralty held that the force at their control was inadequate to such an immense strain with its regular duties which could not be lost sight of. If then we desired to give to the Balance of Power the requisite make-weight of such amphibious strength as resides in an army capable of being projected across the sea, the assurance which all Europe was waiting for was a very considerable increase in the personnel and shipbuilding votes of the Navy. After every allowance has been made for the increase in reserves, it is ludicrous to be content with an addition to the active service personnel of 2000 men and with a Dreadnought programme of only four ships. In addition, some explanation is due to Parliament for no less a sum than £1,600,000 of last year's Estimates remaining unspent. In a year in which for four months the Empire was on the verge of war, when preparations necessarily should have gone on with regard not to saving but solely to efficiency, there is much room for suspicion in the fact. We do not enjoy the advantages of Germany and Italy in being able to continue this money into the expenditure of the following year. It passes automatically to the Treasury. Not a little of the "saving" is in connexion with the angling for votes among those dependent on the Thames Iron Works. Instead of holding up the necessary provision for the safety of the country, nobody would have gainsaid the Admiralty if they had anticipated the programme of the year 1912-13 in respect of the contract of one or more of the eight light armoured cruisers by an arrangement which would galvanise the Thames Iron Works once more into an economic unit in spite of London rates.

We pass by the provision for eight light armoured cruisers and twenty destroyers (the destroyers to be commenced forthwith) as marking the end of a controversy in which the Admiralty critics have once more scored. In destroyers we appear to have attained to the blessed state of regular programmes, so that equal batches will fall obsolete and be replaced at regular intervals. As soon as our present shortage of cruisers has been made good, we may hope to follow a similar policy in this class. Another controversy is closed by the restoration after nearly seven years of the secondary armament of six-inch guns in the new designs of Dreadnoughts. We have again and again contended that the British design was wrong and the German right in this essential particular. The secrecy policy of the Admiralty prevented criticism from having full weight, esoteric State reasons were freely urged, and it was even asserted that it was unpatriotic to criticise. On 18 July 1908 we wrote that the cycle will inevitably bring us to the six-inch gun with its easily man-handled 100-lb. projectile. We hope the lesson will not be lost on a country which at one time appreciated the wise philosophy of Walter Bagehot's "Physics and Politics" concerning the progress of the world through discussion. We refer to the matter once more, for it is obvious that nearly thirty of our ships are, in this respect of a secondary armament, inferior in design to contemporary German ships.

We could wish all our naval controversies had been similarly closed. A step in this direction has been made by a return to Lord Goschen's method in the plain statement by the First Lord of the Admiralty that "these Estimates have been framed on the assumption that the existing programmes of other Naval Powers will not be increased". That is to say, the Estimates assume that the German Navy Bill of 1900, as expanded in 1906 and 1908, is still in force, and a provision will only be made for two Dreadnoughts. If, then, in the course of the next few weeks the statements of the official press are confirmed in expanding this programme to three Dreadnoughts, Mr. Churchill will

presumably inform the House of Commons in his speech introducing the Estimates that our programme is to be six Dreadnoughts instead of four. The arithmetic of the situation, then, will turn entirely on relative strength in Dreadnoughts. We say this for two reasons. In the first place, everybody thoroughly understands the impossibility of putting pre-Dreadnoughts in a line of battle with Dreadnoughts, and secondly the Admiralty are well aware that the pre-Dreadnought strength of the Triple Alliance is materially superior to our own. This being so, we find three schools at work, every one with its own arithmetical formula. The "Daily News" accurately sums up two of them in giving its own view in favour of a proportion of five to four. Then there is the view of a section of the Unionist press, which we congratulate on the accurate knowledge its naval correspondents have been so fortunate to possess of the more or less secret advance intentions of the Cabinet. This plan is that there are no arrears in the past, that indeed programmes of five to four have placed us in a position of unexampled superiority, but that now, if Germany lays down two ships we must lay down four, and if she increases to three we must lay down six. This plan of Mr. Churchill and his friends is the kind of weakness which goes before surrender. We have ourselves in the past urged two keels to one, but if in intervening years we failed to carry it out, clearly the arrears had to be made up. As the "Daily News" points out, "In each of the last two years the ratio has been five to four; the average during the six years in which we have been building Dreadnoughts was something under five to four. Mr. Churchill has lifted the ratio to eight to four. He is assured of a good Opposition press, and that will doubtless gratify him; but what has Liberalism or economy to do with such a programme?" Then the "Daily News", with considerable acumen, seizes on the weak point of our case in that a number of individuals, who have been under considerable obligations for official copy, have been claiming with Mr. Winston Churchill himself "that the policy of his predecessors gave this country overwhelming numerical supremacy. That was done by a ratio of rather under five to four, and in obedience to the Government's avowed rule of preparing to meet any reasonable combination of foreign Powers". If it did not involve so many vital considerations, the situation, with all the intrigues behind it, would be distinctly humorous. In 1909 Mr. Churchill and Mr. Lloyd George were hunting in couples and inspiring the Radical press to attacks on Mr. McKenna. Now Mr. Lloyd George, if he is not quiescent as the result of some bargain which gave him a free hand in home affairs, certainly must feel that there is a vast difference when Mr. Winston Churchill, with an active knowledge of the newspaper press, is working with the other section of the Cabinet. Why responsible Unionists should have thought it necessary to identify themselves with these quarrels we have never been able to understand. Our standpoint is the Imperial one, the vast problem of defence as a whole, which, with now much vaster interests, cannot be met by any standard less than those which have existed in the past. We have repeatedly pointed out that a standard of two to one is one which existed during the whole period from 1778 to 1850, with intervals in which as war developed it rose much higher. Mr. Gladstone's Government, prior to the Naval Defence Act of 1889, when the standard of a margin above the two next strongest Powers came into vogue, followed the two keels to one plan. The Dreadnought era position, however, is that when we have sent the three Invincibles to the Far East as we are pledged to our Dominions to do, we shall have only thirty-three Dreadnoughts and Invincibles to twenty-three for Germany in the spring of 1915. That is on the basis of the existing Estimates and a German programme of only two ships. It gives us a forty-three per cent. superiority out of which it is useless to discuss any provision for our Mediterranean interests or for reinforcements to the Far East, for it simply cannot be done. Our own view is that the Estimates for the year should have made pro-

vision for eight Dreadnoughts, to be laid down at regular intervals, and the vexatious discussion ranging round Germany, such as must occur in the coming Estimates, as well as on the more distant and inevitable supplementary Estimates, would have been thereby reduced to a minimum. We contend that there are arrears to be made up, and if the shipbuilding resources of the country would allow such a strain, we would have unhesitatingly asked for more than eight Dreadnoughts. That position is consistent as well as patriotic. The view of those who contend that after years of approximately equal building with Germany we are in a position of unexampled superiority is as blind as it is false to the best interests of the country, for if it were true, the standard which they now demand would have scarcely a point of justification.

MR. GEORGE'S NEXT P

MR. ASQUITH at Covent Garden last week, seeking consolation where he might for South Manchester, found comfort in the parallel of his party's position just before the Great Budget. Then too they had been losing in a long series of by-elections; then too they were told that the country had turned against them; the Government was doomed. Yet when the election came not very long after, the country returned him again to power. No doubt, thinks Mr. Asquith, history will repeat itself. The parallel is true enough for a certain distance. As in 1909 the Ministerialists have been losing in a long series of by-elections, and as then the country is visibly turning from the Government. It is also true that in spite of these ill omens Mr. Asquith came back to Parliament with a majority—though Mr. Asquith did not think it necessary to explain that a solid Liberal majority had been changed to a composite majority and the Opposition had gained a round hundred seats; so that if history did repeat itself with accuracy, it would be exceedingly unfortunate for Mr. Asquith, who would find himself and his allies in a minority of over eighty. It is, of course, quite true that by-elections are commonly reversed at the succeeding General Election; but it is a false point of comfort for Mr. Asquith; for they are none the less evidence of the general trend of opinion in the country. Failure at a by-election stings the beaten party to energetic preparation for the general and tends to put the victors to sleep; but the movement the by-election had marked goes on elsewhere unchecked. However, we will accept Mr. Asquith's parallel. His side were losing everywhere as now, and yet when the trial came they won. Why? What had happened to stem the tide of Opposition success? As everybody knows, Mr. Lloyd George's famous electioneering Budget. To take money from the few to spend on the many must always be popular; those who would receive under that Budget hugely outnumbered those who would pay. Thus Mr. George became the miraculous rescuer of his party. And to make Mr. Asquith's parallel good, for it to be of any use to him at all, history must repeat itself here; for without the Georgian miracle historic repetition can be but black disaster. Then in what had Mr. Asquith faith? What can turn up as did the Budget? What is Mr. Lloyd George going to do this time? What coup is to save the situation?

First, will Mr. George be allowed to try his hand again at all? The question comes to mind at once, in view of the Insurance Act. No doubt if, according to the Ministerial cue of the moment, that Act was all splendid self-sacrifice, a noble effort to benefit the people against their will, done in the author's full knowledge that it would damage his party, Mr. Asquith and his colleagues might still have full confidence in Mr. George and give him free hand to save them again. But if Mr. George has already made his stroke, if it is precisely the Insurance Act which was to work the miracle and change the country back to the Government, though unfortunately it has in fact converted it the other way, we can easily understand Mr. George's chief and colleagues objecting to his being given another chance.

"You told us your great Insurance idea would sweep the country for us; it has swept us instead. No more of your grand schemes for us." This would be very natural language in the circumstances. That Mr. George thought the Insurance Act would smother his opponents we have no doubt whatever. He knew that Home Rule and Welsh Disestablishment could only injure the Government, nobody wanting either who was not already on the Government side, and many on that side disliking both Bills and certain to be scared away. But they had to be passed; the Government being under hard compulsion. So the Insurance Bill was produced as a miraculous sugar-stick.

The wand has been waved in vain. What is left to Harlequin? What popular bribe can he invent? For the Government it is either a glorious bribe or defeat. We can see but one thing left for Mr. George. Will he withdraw the Insurance Act and replace it by a non-contributory Bill? This would not indeed be saving his face; it would be, nobly of course, abandoning his face to save his life. It would be a brutally shameless thing to do; the motive would be naked; he would have to go back on half he has said on the whole subject; he would be playing sordidly down to the lower side of humanity. We do not say that there would have been anything sordid—not necessarily so, anyway—in his proposing a non-contributory Bill in the first instance. An honourable man and a statesman might quite well believe this to be the best way to effect national insurance. But an honourable man and a statesman could not propose a contributory Bill and prove upon his heart it was the best way and then, when he found it was unpopular, withdraw it and bring in a non-contributory Bill. He would have his excuse, no doubt, and Mr. George would know how to make the most of his submission to the popular will. On the whole, however, everybody and every party would despise him and the Government. But it does not follow that his bribe would not succeed. Electors look much to the main chance, and we could imagine a very large number saying, This man is contemptible, but we will take what he has to give us. Ninepence for fourpence was "kid", but insurance for nothing is something. (We are not saying it would really be for nothing, but it would seem so to vast numbers of electors who know nothing of the incidence of taxation.) It would be a toss-up whether more were repelled by the shamelessness of the bribe or caught by its value in cash. At any rate, the Government can do this thing; they would greatly dislike to do it, we are very sure; but their position is desperate; and, so far as we can see, it is this or nothing for them.

THE TORY HOUSING BILL.

THE logic of events seems, as Ministers would no doubt put it, to be conspiring against the Liberal claim to be the real friends of "the people". Tories prefer to talk about the nation because their conceptions are those of national unity and advantage, Radicals prefer to use the term of the people because it may be employed conveniently on occasion as an emblem of class distinction and class hatred. The friends of the people have, however, been out of luck lately. The trouble began with the Land Taxes, which were to create a new heaven and earth, and have so far only resulted in a deficit to the Exchequer which all classes in the community will have to make good. The second error was the Insurance Bill, on which the people or the nation have been expressing their opinion lately. The remaining time left at the disposal of the Ministry has been allocated to the Welsh and the Irish, to the destruction of the Constitution, and to any other measures that can do no possible good and may do a great deal of harm to the ordinary inhabitant of these islands. Anyhow, there is no time for the Ministry to consider any real and sane project of social reform. In these circumstances it has been left to the Opposition to propound a solution of our housing difficulties, and Sir Arthur Boscawen's Bill, introduced in the

House yesterday, goes a long way in the direction of meeting existing defects in the Housing Acts and of propounding new schemes which experience has shown to be necessary. In the ordinary way, of course, a private member's Bill is of no particular importance, but this Bill is the first legislative effort of a very influential body, the Unionist Social Reform Committee, and is backed by Mr. F. E. Smith, Lord Wolmer, Mr. Astor, Mr. Montague Barlow, Mr. Charles Bathurst, and other Unionist members, and was supported from the Front Bench by Mr. H. W. Forster. In a word, it may be taken as indicating the main lines on which the Unionist Government will proceed in dealing with the housing question.

The Bill may be summarised briefly as follows:—A special department of the Local Government Board to be called the Housing Commissioners will be appointed to deal with all housing questions in the United Kingdom. These Commissioners will possess, instead of the obsolete powers of mandamus, a power not only of recommending on their own initiative a scheme of housing to the local authorities, but of carrying into effect such a scheme in the ultimate resort and charging the cost to the rates. Such a power is, in fact, a guarantee that if it was applied once it would never have to be applied again. In the second place, a national grant of half a million is to be placed at the use of the Housing Commissioners to assist the local authorities in carrying out urgently needed housing schemes in cases where the local necessity is greater than the local supply of cash. The central authority will, in a word, possess not only powers of coercion but powers of monetary persuasion. For our own part we welcome these provisions, in the firm belief that a re-housing policy is in the long run both sound and economic. What is put down to housing is written off, as the experience of Liverpool has amply proved, from the expenses of the controlling authority in dealing with crime, drunkenness, pauperism, sickness, lunacy and imbecility, and all those evils which make the principal charge on the national or local exchequer at the present moment. The great defect of the Insurance Act is that it proposes to insure people against evils which to a great extent might be avoided by decent sanitation and housing. The Unionist remedy is to strike at the root of the disease rather than to insure against its after-effects. If one could house the nation rightly, one could eliminate the greater part of the present expenditure devoted to remedying social defects. For this reason the Tory party has been in the interests of national health and efficiency the author of practically all the important Housing Acts of the past half-century. A further excellent provision in Sir Arthur Boscawen's Bill is the clause dealing with compensation. The present law has worked excellently in certain great cities, owing, no doubt, to the local traditions of arbitrators. In other great centres, such as London, Plymouth and Bristol, it has worked very badly. Schemes of wholesale reconstruction under Part I. of the Act of 1890 have proved almost prohibitive in cost because the rents of the landlords have been swollen by overcrowding. Not that value was to be assessed on overcrowding rents—the enhancement of rent due to overcrowding being expressly barred—but in the past it has been practically impossible to prove overcrowding. The Unionist Bill now lays the onus probandi on the landlord and not on the local authority where a district is notoriously overcrowded. The original intention of the Act of 1890 will thus be put into practical effect. Mr. Montague Barlow, who spoke for the Unionist Social Reformers, was able to point to several very useful amendments to the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act (that Tory but inoperative measure) which should encourage the people to own their houses. Mr. Barlow's interest in the question is well known in the North, and his speech proved that the Unionist party is ready to solve the problem.

The embarrassment of the Liberals during the debate must have been painful. They have no remedy for housing evils, and are pained to discover that the Unionist party is not in a similar predicament. If

Mr. F. E. Smith's Committee gave Mr. Burns an awkward three hours last Monday, its Housing Bill will apparently cause the supporters of the President of the Local Government Board many weeks of annoyance in the future. Toryism is giving a practical proof of its interest in social reform. It is doing so at the very moment when Liberalism has abandoned the subject at the dictates of the Welsh and Irish disruptionists. There never has been a more opportune moment for the reappearance of the old Disraeli doctrine of "Sanitas sanitatum".

CHINA—A NEW CHAPTER.

THE Second Act of the Chinese drama has opened with the installation of Yuan Shih-kai as provisional President of the new Republic. The ceremony was held in the great hall of the new Foreign Office at Peking, in the presence of a representative gathering ranging from high Lamas and Mongol princes to Chinese delegates attired in frock coats significant of their breach with the past. It was doubtful, almost to the last, whether the Assembly which has taken into its hands the conduct of affairs would waive its stipulation that the ceremony should take place at, and the seat of Government be transferred to, Nanking. But the logic of events was stronger than the sentiment which inspired the condition. The mutiny of the Northern troops seems to have carried conviction that Yuan's strong hand was needed for the present, at any rate, at Peking, and the question of the capital is left for future decision. It is an instance of good coming out of evil that a momentous question has been temporarily shelved. From the point of view of enthusiasts bent on eliminating the last trace of Manchu ascendancy, Nanking has much to recommend it. But political decisions must be governed by other than ideal considerations; and Chinese students might remember that, although the first Ming Emperor established his capital at Nanking after driving out the Mongols in 1368, the third Emperor felt constrained by political exigencies to return to Peking. The prevalent opinion among qualified observers is that similar exigencies prevail to-day, and that the transfer of the capital to Nanking might mean the temporary cleavage of the Empire if not the permanent scission of the North. Diplomacy and finance are equally concerned with Chinese statesmanship and patriotism in minimising the risk of disintegration; for the whole edifice of foreign intercourse and relations is based on the assumption of Chinese integrity. Commerce might be carried on with disintegrated Provinces, as it is carried on with Western States which Chinese provinces rival in size and population; but finance—the *crédit inoui*, as de Laboulaye calls it, which has been accorded to China—is based on the conception of an integral Empire.

The very outbreak which has delayed, and may definitely hinder, the change affords a concrete instance of certain risks that change might imply. Things were bad enough in the North as it was. By how much would the chance of recovering control have been lessened if the Centre of Authority had been away at Nanking? The despatch of Southern troops to restore order would then probably have been unavoidable; and that would have meant a partial renewal, at least, of civil war. The precise cause of the mutiny seems still somewhat obscure. Fear of disbandment without provision, delay in payment, curtailment of war perquisites now peace is restored, and orders to dock the queue have been named; and one may perhaps discern in the enumeration, and in the fact that the quarters occupied by the Nanking delegates were the first looted, a trace of dissatisfaction with events. But it may serve also to remind us that the Chinese have not ceased to be Chinese because an effete dynasty has been overthrown and a Republic declared in its stead. Attention has been arrested by the looting at Peking and Tientsin because they are centres of foreign intercourse and their wealth and importance add significance to the destruction; but those who have followed the story of current events

in Shanghai and Hongkong papers know that the sack of these great cities in Chihli is a repetition of what has happened in Szechuen, for instance, and Shense. Note is taken when bombs are thrown effectively or ineffectively in Peking; but the execution of a viceroy and the sack of Chengtu pass unnoticed. Note is taken of the sack of Hankow, because it is a great centre of foreign trade; but the massacre of a whole Manchu population at Si-ngan and the practical outlawry of the intervening region were scarcely heeded till the "Times" published, last week, the story of a relief expedition sent to bring away certain foreigners who had escaped while others were killed. Much has been written of the improvement in drill and discipline of the Chinese troops since the Taiping and Mohammedan rebellions—since the massacre of Tali which signalled the recovery of Yunnan, and the desolation of whole provinces during the struggle which ended with the recapture of Nanking; but the recent outbreak of Yuan's most trusted troops may remind us that the lesson is still imperfectly learned. A well-known Chinese gentleman once compared the raising of a foreign-drilled army with foreign-educated officers to giving a baby strychnine to suck as a tonic; and there may be here a hint of "Peril" more real than that which certain Western prophets have foretold. In the old days of spears and jingals, the half-disciplined levies of one province could be arrayed against the ill-disciplined levies of another; events moved slowly, and a balance of authority was somehow preserved. But soldiers of modern type act more quickly. If disciplined troops throw off discipline, wherewith will you control them? It was argued, not long since, that the control by the Throne of disciplined forces would make rebellion more difficult; but it was precisely a rebellion of disciplined troops which produced this crisis, and an outbreak of other disciplined troops has wrought disaster in the three chief cities of Chihli. The Chinese soldier is recruited more or less from the loose ends of the population, in any case. There are enthusiasts, no doubt, in the Republican ranks—there are even Amazons, though it does not seem to have occurred to them that breaking windows would further the cause! But one would have expected restraint from Yuan's longer-enrolled Northern troops, if temptation arose.

One element of difficulty will be presently averted by the help of foreign finance. Few foreigners who know China would have looked forward with equanimity to a financial stringency so severe as to preclude payment of the troops, on either side. The installation of Yuan Shih-kai as President will enable foreign diplomacy and, what is more urgent, foreign finance to deal with China once more as a Sovereign State. Loans will now be forthcoming. It is to be feared indeed that much borrowing will be needed and many months will pass before normal conditions will be restored and normal revenue collections be available. But increased debt means increased revenue, and people who have been led to believe that the Republic meant relief from pre-existing exactions may become restive when they find that four if not five farthings are still required for every previous penny. No doubt the reformers have in view a complete reorganisation of finance; but reorganisation of a primitive and complex system with which many vested interests are bound up, over an area as large as half Europe, requires time; and questions may arise not only of collection but of apportionment, in the meantime. The practice has been for the Imperial Government to require from each province a definite contribution for Imperial purposes and, incidentally, to impose the service of certain loans upon certain sources of provincial revenues. Will autonomous provinces submit to be assessed in this way by a Central Republican authority? For it must be remembered that the cohesive force in China has been more paternal than fraternal. Chihli and Hunan have been content to look up, mutually, to a semi-divine figure enthroned at Peking; but Kwangtung and Chihli cannot understand each other's speech, and dislike each other only less perhaps than they dislike foreigners from oversea. Will administrative cohesion

survive the removal of the connecting link? The risk of conflict between provincial and federal interests over a vast area containing an immense population is not slight. It may be questionable for instance whether the Southern Provinces would be willing, under a Republic, to accept responsibility for a new indemnity for fresh outrages committed in the North? What is to be the character of the new system? Is it to be autonomous in the sense of each province electing its officials? Most of the old ones seem to have been displaced; at least one viceroy (of Szechuen) has been killed, while his brother continues to govern an unquiet Manchuria with a bold hand. Who is to appoint their successors? It will be no use to have changed the form, if the substance remains the same—no use to have removed the old magistrates if they are to be replaced by foreign-educated students whose capacity for platitude is in inverse proportion to their experience of administration.

REASON AND VIVISECTION.

THE Royal Commission on Vivisection was not appointed to settle the controversy between extreme supporters of vivisection and extreme anti-vivisectionists. Its primary purpose was to inform the public mind on the facts of the charges continually vociferated by anti-vivisectionists against the working of the Act of 1876. Breaches of the Act were alleged against the vivisectors licensed by the Home Secretary, and they were accused of inflicting pain not allowed by the law, thus outraging the nation's conscience if it knew the truth. The public were uneasy when anti-vivisectors brought forward cases of apparently harrowing cruelties where all the safeguards imposed by the Act had been callously disregarded. So definite were the charges that it could hardly be credited that the persons making them were speaking and writing recklessly or without knowledge of what they were criticising. It became necessary then to appoint an impartial inquiry into what was really going on in that dark unfamiliar underworld where experiments on living animals are permitted.

It will be an immense relief to everyone but out-and-out prohibitionists of vivisection to know that the Commission absolutely discredits all the specific cases, twelve in number, brought forward by Mr. Stephen Coleridge as the result of his inquiries, with the aid, pecuniary and otherwise, of the Anti-Vivisection Societies. Mr. Coleridge is the acutest and coolest of the anti-vivisection controversialists; and others have not succeeded where he failed. A lady who wrote "The Shambles of Science" broke down ludicrously. She had a story of a marmot paralysed by the division of the spinal cord. One welcomes the ray of humour amidst unpleasant topics when we learn that the lady misinterpreted the natural stiffness of a marmot's legs on awakening from its annual hibernation; and that it lived two years after its supposed vivisection and died naturally. On this, the most important part of the inquiry, the Commission's report is conclusive; and there is no answer except to deny its competence or its impartiality. This the anti-vivisectionists in their disappointment are doing. They object to some of the Commissioners having been vivisectionists; but there are three others who either are anti-vivisectionists or lean towards that side. Dr. George Wilson is a convinced anti-vivisectionist. Sir William Collins and Colonel Lockwood are at least inclined to that position. The three of them sign a minority report suggesting certain further safeguards on the practice of vivisection with which the majority do not agree. But, after all, they sign the majority report which discredits the charges of abuses under the Act, and the misrepresentations as to wanton torture inflicted on animals by the experiments of licensed vivisectors. Anti-vivisectionists may be expected to question the Commission, as they have either convinced themselves that vivisection, painful or painless, is always morally wrong and not permissible; or that vivisection is quite useless in investigating disease, or suggesting prevention or cure. They, as is every heterodox minority in religion,

science, literature, or politics, are quite irreconcilable; and a tribunal that delivers against them will in perfect good faith be accused by them of partiality. The general public does not claim to be expert on either the moral or the scientific issues. It holds the common morality as to the sacrifice of animal comfort and life to the comfort and life of man. On the scientific side it accepts the authority of the experts in physiology and medicine that various useful discoveries have been made by vivisection. Many people recall surgeons, such as Lord Lister, saying they would not have dared to perform new operations without prior experiments on animals. They look on vivisection then very much as on the slaughter of animals for food: notwithstanding some others think it disgusting, or even wicked. But whether vivisection is for the prevention or cure of diseases, the majority of us demand that there shall be no unnecessary cruelty in the practice, as we demand that there shall be none in the preparation of our food. For our satisfaction on this point we call for an inquiry neither by a tribunal of vivisectionists nor by one of anti-vivisectionists. The expert physiologist accustomed to experiment might possibly be below the average man in sensibility, as the doctor takes suffering more placidly than the layman. The anti-vivisectionist would probably go on some ethical theory which has never occurred spontaneously to the average man, and which he thinks fantastic when it is put to him. On the whole we may believe the Commissioners were as good as could be for such an inquiry; and their conclusions remove doubts which were nightmarish to the sensitive.

We may trust the Commissioners as to the working of the Act, where they are unanimous. But there are differences in their views as to desirable alterations in the Act about which one may be doubtful and feel that the matter is for experts. The minority recommend that where the nature of the investigation makes anaesthetics impracticable the animal shall be killed painlessly immediately real or obvious suffering is observed. In the great majority of experiments made without anaesthetics there is very little pain. In most of the bacteriological and anti-toxin inoculations, painless to begin with, the animal afterwards suffers the pain which hundreds of thousands of human beings are at any moment suffering. Suppose it is the inoculation for cancer, lockjaw, or tuberculosis. The development of the disease has to be observed; and we know something of the pain that men and women suffer; it cannot be more, it may be less in animals. If the animal is killed immediately the pain of the introduced disease shows itself, obviously the course of the disease cannot be studied. If we insist on the animal being killed, we are acting on the moral theory that there is no excuse for any infliction of designed pain on animals. Or else we accept the physiological theory that experiments on animals are useless for scientific purposes, and therefore that the inflicted pain is merely senseless cruelty. The majority of the Commissioners, rejecting both theories, state that animals in some experiments cannot be killed immediately on pain supervening without imperilling the assumed knowledge to be got from the experiment; but they recommend certain additional safeguards, such as giving power to inspectors to order the destruction of animals that have been subjected to this class of experiments, and the increase of the inspectorate. Whether this is sufficient or not must be left with the Home Secretary to decide, with the help of as skilful and impartial advisers as can be obtained; and evidently they should devise regulations preventing as far as possible every twinge of pain not necessary to the assumed benefit of the experiment. Possibly the experimenter might be more or less indifferent: "The hand of little employment has the daintier sense." The difficulty is very easily got over by the anti-vivisector. He has only to prohibit altogether on one or other of the theories; but this is not open to those who take up the position that vivisection is permissible and useful to humanity, while insisting that every possible precaution ought to be taken against unnecessary suffering. To our thinking the majority report leaves the matter

feasible, considering the dilemma. We do not suppose they claim academically to have settled against the anti-vivisectionists that they are wrong. But how much further can the ordinary man get in this question than the summing-up of the probabilities made by the Commission after hearing evidence for and against? It seems to us to conform with the conclusion which most intelligent people have arrived at in the course of their no doubt informal reading and inquiry. Experiment on animals seems to have *prima facie* similar superiority to non-experiment for discoveries in physiology as experiment has over non-experiment in any other branch of science. It is no answer to refer, as anti-vivisectionists do, to failures of experiments on animals in many cases. The Commissioners do this too. Every branch of experimental science has a similar history; false conclusions founded on false experiments are afterwards found out and corrected. The objection is illogical and unscientific. Quite justifiably there is hope, from discoveries believed to have been actually made by experiments on animals, that by the same methods knowledge may be extended regarding the prevention or cure of other most painful diseases, both of men and animals, which are at present scarcely or not at all amenable to treatment.

THE HARDY NORSEMAN'S FEAT.

NINETY-THREE years ago a Russian Emperor resolved to explore the two Polar regions by simultaneous expeditions, and dispatched two ships to the Antarctic and two to the Arctic by way of Bering Strait. When Bellingshausen, after the first campaign of his South Polar voyage, entered Sydney Harbour his ships lay alongside the vessels on their way towards the North Pole. Seventy years ago the "Erebus" and "Terror" returned from the discovery of the Great Barrier and the "signs of land" now known as King Edward Land, and sixty-eight years ago they sailed from England, never to return, carrying Franklin to his death in the North-West Passage. So twice before the extreme north and the extreme south were closely linked together. The closest link of all is now in the forging, for we have just heard that Roald Amundsen, who, first of all men, carried a ship, the little motor-smack "Gjoa", through the North-West Passage, has, first of all men, succeeded in reaching the South Pole. He was brought to the edge of the ice, the most southerly point ever reached by a ship, by the famous "Fram", which carried Nansen eighteen years ago to the most northerly point a ship ever penetrated; and without returning to Europe he proposes to go on in the same vessel to Bering Strait to enter on a second drift, perhaps of five years' duration, across the ice-choked North Polar Sea.

Amundsen has shown himself to be a model explorer, conscientious, indefatigable, silent, and successful. His feat in reaching the South Pole is accepted everywhere without question and without demur on the strength of his transparent truthfulness, and nowhere has he been acclaimed more heartily than by Englishmen. This is no mere matter of course, for a shadow lay on the beginning of his southward journey. Captain Amundsen had outlined his plan for a drift across the North Polar Sea in the "Fram", he had described it before the Royal Geographical Society, and had received a grant of money for that purpose from the Society, not much, it is true, but enough to show the hearty approval of his Arctic plans by British geographers. Captain Scott had sailed in the "Terra Nova" with the best equipped and largest expedition for land travel that had ever sought the shores of the Antarctic continent, and with the avowed object of reaching the South Pole by travelling over the ice-barrier from MacMurdo Sound and also of exploring King Edward Land. Amundsen left Norway in the "Fram" bound for Bering Strait by Cape Horn, as everyone supposed, but from Madeira he wrote home stating that he had resolved to make a dash for the South Pole on the way. It was supposed from this

that he contemplated a new route, entering the Antarctic continent somewhere to the south of South America. But when the "Terra Nova" reached the Bay of Whales, on the edge of the Great Barrier near King Edward Land, the "Fram" was found there first, and Amundsen was established on the ice two miles from the sea preparing to start inland. Whether for this reason or not, Captain Scott's eastern party changed its destination and left the east end of the Barrier to the Norwegians. The question was freely debated whether Amundsen was observing or breaking the rules of Polar ethics in attempting to forestall another expedition. Much as we all admire Captain Scott, fully as we recognise his eminent worthiness to succeed in his patriotic ambition to plant the Union Jack at the South Pole, we cannot but acknowledge that Amundsen had a perfect right to enter into competition with him. Had Amundsen been a British subject the verdict would go in the other direction; for the generous rivalry of patriotism is a very different thing from the envious spirit which prompted Cook to try to steal a march on his own countryman, Peary.

Amundsen has made a journey that stirs the blood of every lover of manly enterprise. It seems to have been a perfect expedition, well planned, ably executed, and successfully accomplished. He has succeeded by improving upon his predecessors, as they improved on those who went before. Captain Scott on the "Discovery" expedition was the pioneer of land travel in the Antarctic regions. He was the first to take advantage of the absence of land carnivora in the South to develop the system of laying out depots in advance upon the ice, and he was the first to grapple with a crowd of new and unexpected problems. He discovered by painful experience that the old Arctic rule of following the land was a false guide for the Barrier, leading into the regions of the worst disturbed ice. All the same, he far outdistanced all who went before him, and but for the effects of the bad tinned provisions on which he relied he would probably have reached the Pole in a renewed attempt in his second year. Sir Ernest Shackleton, profiting by the experience, planned a new route from King Edward Land, but the sea-ice prevented him from reaching that base, and he was forced to follow Scott's route, though by keeping farther to the east on the Barrier he had smoother ice, by using ponies instead of dogs he made faster progress, and but for the unfortunate loss of his last pony on the glacier which led to the great plateau he would unquestionably have gained the Pole. He extended Scott's discoveries for 420 miles to the southward, showing the continuity of the great south-running mountain chain to the Beardmore glacier in 84 degrees S.; and thence he saw the mountains buttressing the huge snow-plateau trending to the south-east. Now Amundsen has come vindicating Shackleton's sagacity in the choice of the route from King Edward Land, shattering another canon of Arctic law by building his house on the Barrier ice far from any solid land, eliminating preserved food and trusting to a vast accumulation of frozen seal-meat which he collected and sledged out in the autumn to distant depots, elaborating the system of depots by leaving supplies more than sufficient for the return stage at every degree of latitude, reducing the risk (which nearly turned Shackleton's return journey to a funeral) of missing a depot by planting flags several miles away to the east and west of each, and, above all, depending for rapid travel on the proficiency of himself and his companions as ski-runners and on the fine teams of dogs, fed constantly on an abundant diet of fresh meat. Thanks to their hardiness, their skill, and their forethought, the Norwegians suffered no hardships worthy of the name. They travelled due south to the end of the Barrier in 85 degrees S., found a comparatively easy road up the Devil's Glacier in 86 degrees S. to the great plateau, crossed the south-eastward-running mountains which continued the range crossed by Shackleton, and saw them—so we read his telegram—divide, one branch continuing south-eastward towards Graham Land, the other bending north-eastward towards King Edward Land. All the results

reported by Amundsen confirm the earlier work of Scott and Shackleton; when plotted on Shackleton's map they fit in perfectly as to the direction of the mountain ranges, the height of the peaks, and the altitude of the plateau. The South Pole was found to lie on a snow plain 10,500 feet above the sea; the party of five Norwegians reached it in bright weather, and they all took observations of the altitude of the sun at hourly intervals during the whole of 16 December, thereby fixing their position with the utmost possible accuracy. Peary at the North Pole in April had to measure altitudes of only 7 degrees with tremulous ice to support his artificial horizon, but at the South Pole Amundsen, in the middle of December, in the very height of the southern summer, had the sun at an altitude of more than 20 degrees and a solid land surface for the artificial horizon, thereby securing far greater accuracy than was possible for the North Pole. The perfect success of this model expedition extended to the determination with which the contract with the "Daily Chronicle" to supply the exclusive report was kept. This is perhaps the best proof of all of the resolution of Amundsen's character, for to face a crowd of hungry journalists hunting for copy and send them empty away is a more trying ordeal than any experience which the inorganic forces of nature can produce.

THE CITY.

THE only logical explanation of the bout of activity on the Stock Exchange is that money thrown idle by trade depression through the coal strike is being employed in speculation. To some slight extent that is the actual explanation; but logic does not count for much on the Stock Exchange when business is active. No one has time even to discuss news; the official hours of business are far too short; dealings are prolonged in a seething "Street" market every evening, and telephones and telegrams are far too slow to keep outside speculators in touch with prices because prices move too rapidly. Throgmorton Street is enjoying a "boom"—scarcely comparable with the Rubber "boom" of two years ago and scarcely likely to reach such dimensions, but a boom nevertheless, and one which shows signs of expanding.

The Nigerian Tin section is the hub of activity. A tremendous business has been done in Anglo-Continental, which have had a remarkable rise, and have risen too in the face of heavy profit-taking. Rayfield Syndicates have also been largely bought at improving quotations, and Nigerian Tin Corporations advanced rapidly, while many other shares have attracted a great deal of attention. That keen discrimination should be exercised in a market such as this is too obvious a warning to need emphasising. The point is that Nigerian Tin shares are the fashion at the moment, and as long as they remain in fashion good profits may be made on the "bull" tack. Toward the end of the week the market began to look rather ragged owing to realisations; but the people who have made profits are not likely to turn their backs on the arena just yet.

The speculative enthusiasm spread to other mining departments. West African gold shares came in for some attention, and the expansion of business in the Rhodesian section was particularly pronounced. Substantial improvements have been registered in the leading shares, and a further appreciation is expected. With the better outlook for the Rand mining industry Kaffirs have also been favoured, "bear" repurchases and new buying on London account as well as from the Continent having lifted quotations materially.

Oil shares have likewise attracted considerable notice. The Egyptian group have been in strong demand owing to favourable developments under the management of the "Shell" representatives, and the expanding production from the Maikop field has drawn attention to such shares as Anglo-Maikops and Maikop Pipe Lines. Naturally, too, Rubber shares have been well supported, and there are signs of increasing public interest. At

the fortnightly sale of raw material excellent prices were realised. Owing to the large consumption of rubber offerings by private treaty, competition at the auctions has developed satisfactorily, and the general trade demand gives no indication of slackening.

Investment markets have kept remarkably firm. Consols were strong at one time on the indications of a substantial Budget surplus, which ought to be applied automatically to the reduction of the National Debt, but rumours of an impending South African loan of £5,000,000 had a depressing influence later. There has not been much business in Home railways, but in spite of the paralysing effect of the coal strike on the general trade of the country, which is reflected in an aggregate decrease of nearly £500,000 in last week's railway traffic receipts, several stocks have marked important rises. This improvement seems hardly justified, and a reaction will not cause much surprise, seeing that traffic returns for the next week or two are likely to cause an unfavourable impression.

In the Colonial railway section an intermittent demand has been experienced for Canadian Pacifics based on the continuance of satisfactory traffics, and Grand Trunks have received some support. No feature of importance has developed among American rails. The coal labour outlook in the United States still causes sufficient uneasiness to keep the public out of the market, even if the political situation were not a deterring factor. Big financial interests, however, are supporting prices, which is not a difficult task because there is no "bull" account open. As regards Foreign rails, Mexican issues have recovered as the scanty news concerning the political situation reads more favourably. Reports of a political free fight in Brazil caused realisations in Leopoldina Railway stock, in which there was a rather extended "bull" account; but Brazil Railway stocks made further headway. Some investment buying of Argentine issues has been in progress.

Industrial shares have kept relatively firm on the whole, Associated Portland Cements recovering on the prospects of a settlement of the coal dispute. In the telegraph section renewed buying came in for Marconis on the announcement of the agreement with the Government, and Canadian Marconis shot up sharply in expectation of a similar arrangement with the Canadian authorities; but Eastern and Eastern Extension stocks were sold owing to fears of wireless competition.

INSURANCE.

THE SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND SOCIETY.

WHEN a conservatively managed life office has completed the third year of a quinquennium it is not, as a rule, difficult to forecast the general results of the full period. Of course, nothing is certain where life assurance is concerned, because the rate of mortality, the rate of interest, and the course of Stock Exchange quotations cannot be known in advance. Even the most expert actuary, possessing inside knowledge, can only formulate an opinion that may be expected to prove more or less nearly correct; he can make a shrewd guess, and that is all. In the case of the Scottish Widows' Fund Life Assurance Society, however, guessing is not attended with much risk; the administration is so perfect in every detail. It is hardly necessary, indeed, to wait three years in order to estimate the chances of the members at the next division of profits. Provided the volume of the new premium income can be seen to be increasing, almost everything else may be taken for granted. For five septenniums in succession, ending 31 December 1908, a compound reversionary bonus at the high rate of 34s. per cent. per annum was declared, and so prosperous has the business remained since then that the same or a higher rate will probably be paid for the current five years.

At the meeting of members held in Edinburgh on 5 March last Sir Henry Cook, who presided, called attention to one fact of much significance. Comparing the new business results of the present with those of

the last bonus period, he showed that in the first three years there had been an increase exceeding 60 per cent. in the amount of the assurances. In the earlier period, 1902-4, 7555 policies were taken out for £4,144,000, whereas the totals for the three years 1909-11 were 10,891 and £6,895,000 respectively. Possibly a more interesting point was not made quite plain—this large increase was accompanied by an almost inappreciable rise in the general expense ratio, which was 11.5 in 1902, 9.62 in 1903, and 9.34 in 1904, against 11.14 in 1909, 10.37 in 1910, and 10.48 last year. At a very slight extra cost, therefore, a great improvement has been effected, because some years ago the new business of the Scottish Widows' was rather small by comparison with the total premium income, the amount of which was increasing somewhat slowly.

This was certainly not the case during the last three years. In 1908, when the last septennium was completed, the premium income was £1,185,762, whereas an amount of £1,305,038 was received in 1911. When a society established in 1815 can increase its premium income at the yearly rate of nearly £40,000, it undoubtedly shows "no signs of decrepitude". As a matter of fact, the Scottish Widows' is to-day not only a great life office—the greatest in the United Kingdom—but it is also one of the most vigorous, and it is probable that the newly attained record of 4009 new policies of £2,402,972 will be left far behind in the final year of the current quinquennium. Few more enterprising life offices exist indeed at the present time, and the energies of the management are no longer confined to the cultivation of life assurance connexions. Since the end of 1901 an important business has been established with the purchasers of annuity bonds, and the current report shows that a good start has been made in another direction, capital redemption policies to the amount of £84,000 having been issued last year.

At no period in the long history of this old society has the administration been marked by quite so many symptoms of general alertness. It has always been most capable and progressive, but it is now conspicuously energetic, without any departure being made from the constant rule of extreme conservatism. How ably the business is now conducted is proved by the fact that during the last three years the amount of the assurance and annuity funds increased from £18,797,175 to £20,473,739, sums of £353,540, £689,781, and £633,344 having been added to the total in 1909, 1910, and 1911 respectively. A small capital redemption assurance fund has also been created, the reserve fund of £400,000 remains intact, and the average rate of interest earned, which subject to income tax was £4 1s. 5d. per cent. in 1908, the last year of the preceding valuation period, has further risen, having been £4 1s. 9d. in 1909, £4 2s. 4d. in 1910, and £4 2s. 10d. last year.

These rates compare with £3 18s. 1d., £3 17s. 11d., and £3 18s. 10d. in the first three years of the 1902-8 septennium. Prospects for the next bonus are therefore already most favourable. The new business has greatly enlarged, the rate of interest has improved to the extent of about 4s. per cent., and the expenditure, as represented by the burden on the premium income, has not increased. It also seems probable that the profit for suspended mortality—the other main source of surplus—will prove at least proportionately as large as on the last occasion, the percentages of actual to expected claims having been 86 per cent. in 1909, 68 per cent. in 1910, and 73.6 per cent. last year. What may happen in this respect during the current year and the year following is of course uncertain, but it is evident that at no recent period was the prosperity of the Scottish Widows' Society more generally pronounced. When the last distribution of profits took place a considerable balance was carried forward unappropriated, while a footnote appended to the current balance-sheet indicates the existence of a more or less substantial latent reserve.

"MILESTONES."

By JOHN PALMER.

IN decent deference to the authors of "Milestones", and to the very many people who will go to this play and enjoy it from end to end, I must begin this week with an apology. For I am afraid my appreciation of "Milestones" will seem cold and ungracious to many who have been wise and fortunate enough to see it. Much of my time last week at the Royalty Theatre was spent in noting how the magic of dead fashions, and of things that were topical twenty-seven years ago, is powerful to thrill and to amuse really grown-up people of thirty-five and forty; and I realised with something of a shock that London playgoers were humming the "Mikado" and talking respectfully of the big new Hotel Metropole at Charing Cross, before I, or any of my friends and contemporaries at Oxford, was even so much as born. Where, for me, was the significance and poignancy of these allusions? They made me feel like an interloper, assisting without reverence at a celebration in which I was not initiated to share. Nor could I understand without a vigorous effort of imagination the wistfulness which I saw reflected in so many of the countenances about me, as the mimic generations lived and loved and passed into the sere before them on the stage. I could feel quite distinctly that in the mood of the audience there was something tenderly reminiscent from which I was brutally excluded. As the fresh young heroine of '85 warbled of Yum-yum-yum I knew that many, for all their smiling, were dropping sad-sweet tears in the silence of their hearts. Sometimes I fancied that my imperviousness to the agreeable sadness of the evening was felt and resented telepathetically in waves of vague hostility. What's Yum-yum-yum to him, or he to Yum-yum-yum?

Act One—1860. A terrible young firebrand who believes in the future of iron ships flings violently away from the old-established firm in which he was born and bred. There were, it seems, new and devastating ideas in 1860, as in 1912; and in 1860, as in 1912, young people believed in them, and were heroes and martyrs in their behalf, not necessarily because they were wiser than their elders, but because they were younger. For, in the cause of progress, it is more important to be young than to be wise. Apparently, there is only one thing in which we have not improved upon our grandfathers. It must surely have occurred to everyone who saw Mr. Dennis Eadie and Miss Mary Jerrold in the first Act of "Milestones" that the art of making love is as completely lost to-day as the art of making stained-glass windows. When men and women of to-day make love upon a modern stage, one begins uncomfortably to feel that it is indelicate of the audience to be there. But no one would for worlds have missed the love-making of Mr. Eadie and Miss Jerrold. It was reticent and seemly—distinguished by a sense of style and finish sadly wanting in our conduct of affaires du cœur in the twentieth century. The nineteenth century was possibly, as Mr. Shaw insists, the wickedest century that ever lived; but there were very many agreeable things that perished with the crinoline.

Act Two—1885. The firebrand has made a fortune. He is middle-aged and crusty. He has a daughter who believes in steel, as her father before her believed in iron; but people who believe in iron between twenty and thirty do not believe in steel between forty and fifty. Most of the comedy that I liked and thoroughly understood was contained in these admirably written scenes of 1885. The revolutionary was now the tyrant. True, he had believed in his own ideas; but they were the sound and sensible ideas of a generation that knew what it was talking about. True, he had married the girl he loved in spite of her people who were fogeys. But his daughter's was quite a different case. It always is. Steel, like love, is fiddlesticks to a man who, on the strength of iron, has successfully made himself into a baronet.

Act Three—1912. The firebrand is now a grandfather. He has witnessed the victory of steel. Steel,

in 1912, is leading the Labour party in the House of Commons. This is the Act where I was most keenly aware that an apology would have to be made for having been born hereafter. Three generations were now upon the stage. The mistakes of 1860 and 1885 rubbed shoulders with the young, delirious dreams of 1912. The selfishness of age and the brutality of youth were sharply pointed in this jostling of years. I felt it was unkind to be young in 1912 by the side of men and women who were young in 1885 and in 1860; and I was ashamed of myself for being insufficiently affected by the ultimate fireside picture of the grandparents whose children had grown beyond them. "We live and learn", said grandfather as the curtain came down upon the room in which he had grown from a firebrand into a fogey. My own ungracious comment upon the scene was that grandfather's remark might easily have been more relevant to all we had seen. "We live, but we never learn" is the correct motto of "Milestones".

Messrs. Arnold Bennett and Edward Knoblauch have written a play which the public ought to want. The characters are well-sketched; the wit is easy (too easy at times), but seldom cheap; and the theme must fascinate even a firebrand of 1912, who may at least learn from "Milestones" that no one is so soon out-of-date as a revolutionary. This play is decidedly the best in which Mr. Arnold Bennett has as yet been concerned as dramatic author. It is one of the very few plays I have seen during the last twelve months which offends neither the intelligence nor the taste of an ordinarily well-educated person. The play is extremely well acted. The performance of Mr. Dennis Eadie as firebrand, as fogey of the first, and as fogey of the second degree, is an exercise in versatility which would baffle anyone but a virtuoso. Miss Mary Jerrold also grows up quite successfully between the Acts, and Miss Haidée Wright is really a terrifying tribute to the thoroughness with which time passes.

I have decided not to write anything about "Kipps" at the Vaudeville. It derives nothing of value from the novel of Mr. Wells. At the best it is good workaday farce, which gives Mr. O. B. Clarence and Mr. Rudge Harding the opportunity for some clever acting. Mr. Wells' study of a simple soul—with all its intimate psychology and clever detail as to environment—is nowhere suggested in the work of Mr. Besier. Some of the principal characters have actually disappeared. Helen Walshingham, for instance, has vanished completely, her place being taken by a creature of the same name who for the farce's purpose is a wicked fortune-hunter. The writing is not particularly distinguished. It is quite possible to roar delightedly at the fun; but this laughter has nothing to do with Mr. Wells, or with Mr. Besier. The fortunes of this play are in the faces of Mr. Clarence and Mr. Harding. These players are most competently funny—especially when they have nothing to say.

SOME HANDEL MANUSCRIPTS.

By JOHN F. RUNCIMAN.

HANDEL had a gentleman who was a cook and a contrapuntist, a concocter of dinners and fair copies of full scores. What Handel thought of John Christopher Smith's fugues is not recorded, but there seems good reason to believe that the dinners proved satisfactory. At any rate, Handel flourished on them sufficiently well to write a good many fugues of his own; and in his will he left Smith the copies he (Smith) had made of his (Handel's) scores. A number of these found their way into the possession of a gentleman named Granville, who left them to other members of his family. At last they have found their way to London, and on the twenty-eighth of this month Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson and Hodge will sell them to the highest bidders. I spent a pleasant hour looking over them, and must thank the members of the great firm for treating me as politely as if I were not a musical critic. It was needless to go through

the whole of the volumes. In the year 1899 the Editor of this Review sent me to Hamburg to hear a new work and an old one—Siegfried Wagner's "Bärenhäuter" and Handel's "Saul"; and naturally, inevitably, I visited Dr. Chrysander. Although Mr. Streatfeild in an article on this collection says Chrysander did not know the collection; but had heard of it, Chrysander himself told me he knew it quite well; and he told me so much that when I came to look over the scores I discovered that I knew a good deal about them. It may be difficult for a Museum official to be quite accurate, but it is just possible that Mr. Streatfeild may be right: that is, Chrysander may not have used the Granville collection in making the German Handel Society edition. Anyway, we can never know absolutely which scores, Handel's or Christopher's, represent Handel's real intention. Handel altered so much and so often that I would prefer to take Christopher's version. "How beautiful are the feet" in Smith is set in much the same fashion as "O Death where is thy sting", for duet followed by a chorus; but in this case it is known that Handel altered and altered many times: also that the final version, as it stands in Handel's script, is the one he preferred. "Their sound is gone out" in Smith is a mere unimportant sketch. As for the questions of solos being allotted in one version to one voice and in another to another, that is of no special interest. Fakes and changes of all sorts used to be made in the old days at each performance of any popular work. It really matters nothing whether "Thou art gone up on high" is sung by a bass or soprano; and the same must be said about "If God be with us".

The great value of these scores is, I think, that after all they are more likely to represent Handel's final intention than the autographs, save in such cases as "How beautiful are the feet", where we know that he re-wrote often. Smith, after Handel's death, directed the oratorio performances, and as he was a faithful servitor we may be sure that he directed them as Handel had done. Of course, in the cases where alterations were made, he would simply insert in his bound volume the new sheets, and these, it seems to me, must have got lost. There is no sign of anything having been pasted in the volumes. There are all sorts of things—good, bad, and very indifferent indeed. Handel was a great composer of music in a double sense—he composed some very great music and he composed a very great quantity of music. In the scores of the late Mr. Granville we find some of his scores are hardly worth looking at. There are dozens which are worth ten times their weight in gold—as I suppose Messrs. Sotheby will find out in a week or two's time. The Autograph trio, written at Naples in 1708, is, perhaps, the most interesting of the lot, though it is not by any means the most valuable. We must suppose it to be written by Handel; but the script is very unlike his. Yet Granville knew his handwriting well; and, after all, a man's first changes between his twenty-third and his fifty-fifth year.

PAST AND PRESENT MAN.

By SIR RAY LANKESTER.

THERE is in these days, among the general public, an increasing interest in the evidences of the existence of man on this earth at a very remote period—a period reaching back not merely to tens, but to hundreds of thousands of years. The little book * written by Professor Sollas contains a great deal of the most recent information on this subject. It is illustrated by abundant process blocks copied from works of authority, and the subject is handled in a bold, not to say audacious, spirit which makes the story told an interesting one. Probably Professor Sollas is right in boldly launching unaccepted theories in a popular book. Some of them, already cautiously entertained by patient investigators, will some

* "Ancient Hunters and their Modern Representatives." By W. J. Sollas. London: Macmillan. 1911. 12s. net.

day turn out to be more or less well founded; others will disappear. In the meantime they really serve as threads—artificial it may be—upon which to group facts in some kind of order and give a liveliness to the record put before the reader. The book is one which may be warmly recommended to the general reader provided that he understands that there is not a very serious attempt made in it to treat disputable matters in a judicial spirit. In fact Professor Sollas cannot be considered as, here, addressing archaeologists and anthropologists. Were he to do so he would have to treat his subject at far greater length and to bring forward in support of his views careful statements of fact and original observations worthy of the Oxford professor of geology.

Professor Sollas starts with a very much condensed account of the great Ice Age and of the successive periods of extension and recession of glaciers indicated by recent researches. Presumably it is on account of this that the well-known panoramic photograph of the view of the mountains and glaciers from the Gorner Grät is presented as the frontispiece of the work—but what is its value in this connexion is not evident. On page 18 we read of “the accompanying illustration (plate 2)” stated to have been lent by Professor Penck and to represent one side of the valley of the Steyr. We should have preferred this plate to the Gorner Grät panorama, but it does not appear in the book, nor is there a plate 1.

After this introduction dealing with the Ice Age and an account of ancient remains of man, illustrated by text-blocks, we come to a chapter headed “Eoliths”. Professor Sollas writes on page 89 that the question of the human workmanship of the plateau implements from Ightham “is involved in the raging vortex of the ‘eolith’ controversy”. The Professor is, I regret to note, one of those who enjoy this “sham” fight. It would have been better for his readers had they been informed that there is really no “eolith” controversy at all, but that some archaeologists have called very early and roughly broken flints by the name “eolith” without defining the term, and that others call any piece of broken flint an “eolith” in order to mock at the archaeologists who first made use of the word. The problems so gaily described as “the eolith controversy” by Professor Sollas properly lead to a number of separate and difficult inquiries. It should be discussed whether certain broken flints *A* found in beds of gravel unconnected with the present valley drainage at a given locality *x* are of human workmanship or not. It should also be quite independently discussed whether other equally or more ancient broken flints *B* from locality *y* are of human workmanship, and so on with regard to several other independent sets of flints from widely separate localities and of various geological antiquity. Obviously the only sensible thing to do is to examine each case on its merits. But an ingenious muddle-maker had the Mephistophelian inspiration to speak of them all as “eoliths”, whereupon another declared that he could make eoliths in a road with a cart-wheel, and a respected palæontologist produced broken flints from a chalk-mill and said they, too, were “eoliths”. Obviously the word has become merely a term of abuse. In any case Professor Sollas tells us “on the important question of man’s first arrival on this planet we may for the present possess our minds in peace, not a trace of unquestionable evidence of his existence having been found in strata admittedly older than the Pleistocene”. The attitude of our author on this subject may well inspire doubt as to his fairness in dealing with other debated questions. Surely he should have discussed the sub-crag rostro-carinate flint implements of Ipswich in this connexion. Is it possible that he overlooked them? Again, he appears to have made no examination of any large and representative series of the upper Miocene worked flints of Aurillac, although he copies on page 56 a worthless figure of a piece of flint from this locality by another author and labels it contemptuously “eolith”. More objectionable than either of these omissions is the acceptance by Professor Sollas of the

illusory term “eolith” for some fractured flints from the Thanet Sands of Belle-Assize, of which he declares that the Abbé Breuil “shows in the most convincing manner” that they owe their fracture to movements of the strata while settling under pressure. The Abbé Breuil (whose paper on the subject is well known) does nothing more than suggest such a history, which, moreover, is a mechanical impossibility. As for showing in any manner that sand lying upon the top of flints, even if piled up to a thickness of a hundred feet, can exert such a pressure on them as to fracture them, it is necessary to point out to Professor Sollas and his readers that the Abbé Breuil does nothing of the kind. He does not even attempt to do so. Had he made the attempt, he would never have suggested the possibility of the occurrence, for he would have found, firstly, that it is known that owing to its structure and consequent mechanical properties a given depth of sand can only exert by its weight a pressure equal to that of a similar depth of liquid of twice the specific gravity of water; and secondly, he would have found by direct experiment that sand does not exert any such crushing action—a fact one might have expected to be known to a geologist who has dug the shells of tertiary mollusca out of their resting-place under hundreds of tons weight of sand and gravel.

Leaving the “vortex” in which, according to him, all those flints which people arbitrarily call “eoliths” are crushed, Professor Sollas gives an interesting chapter on the Tasmanians and their stone implements, which does not, however, furnish any account of researches now in progress on this subject. He then sketches in turn in a series of largely illustrated chapters the flint implements, carvings, and other works of art of the successive periods known as the Lower, Middle, and Upper Palæolithic. The oldest implement containing deposits admitted by him are the “Mesvinian” and “Strepyan” gravels of Professor Rutot (often called “Early Chellean”), followed by the “Chellean” and “Acheulean”. As Middle Palæolithic he takes the “Mousterian” (the horizon or period of the Neander men), and as Upper Palæolithic the “Aurignacian”, “Solutrian”, and “Magdalenian” stages. Interspersed among these are interesting chapters on the Australian Aborigines, on the Bushmen of South Africa, and on the Eskimo. Throughout a very interesting attempt is made not merely to compare the successive races of ancient men whose works (and in rare cases skeletons) are found in the successive Palæolithic periods, with existing savage races, but in a more or less definite way to identify certain of the European prehistoric races with certain existing remote races of men who exhibit a primitive condition of culture.

The speculations put forward by Professor Sollas are thus summed up by him (p. 382). “If the views we have expressed in this and preceding chapters are well-founded, it would appear that the surviving races which represent the vanished Palæolithic hunters have succeeded one another over Europe in the order of their intelligence. Each has yielded in turn to a more highly developed and more highly gifted form of man. From what is now the focus of civilisation they have one by one been expelled and driven to the uttermost parts of the earth; the Mousterians survive in the remotely related Australians at the Antipodes, the Solutrians are represented by the Bushmen of the southern extremity of Africa, the Magdalenians by the Eskimo on the frozen margin of the North American continent, and as well, perhaps, by the Red Indians.” There is much to justify such a theory as this in a general way, and no harm but rather good will come in consequence of its statement. The points of agreement insisted on by Professor Sollas have, many of them, been long familiar to archaeologists and anthropologists and have been constantly discussed. The most important line of opposition to such identifications of a recent savage race with a Palæolithic race, similar to it in arts and habits of life and even in shape of skull and jaw, is that the resemblances may be due to identity in the conditions of life, and not to heredity from a close common ancestry. I think that this objection is merely of value as a demand

for caution and fuller evidence. Each of the identifications adopted by Professor Sollas requires, it is obvious, a far longer and more profound study, and a far more complete exposition in order to gain acceptance by reasonable people, than he has offered to us in the present book. For my own part I think there is less in favour of a close approximation of the Neander men (or Mousterians) with the Australians than there is in regard to the other identifications. There is in fact very little beyond a certain resemblance (by no means very close) of the Neander skulls to some Australian skulls.

On the other hand, in common with many other students of these matters, I have been led by recent discoveries to entertain the hypothesis of a racial affinity between the modern Bushmen and the Aurignacians (with whom Professor Sollas would associate also the Solutrians). The negroid skeletons of the Prince's Grotto at Mentone, the peculiar form of the steatopygous "figurines", and the abundant rock-paintings of animals and men are solid tangible things which strongly suggest a relationship of the Aurignacians to the Bushmen, whilst the geographical position of the races compared is such as to favour a possible early connexion.

The question of the Eskimo and the Magdalenians has been long discussed. The pendulum has lately swung against the belief in their racial identity. But I confess that if the account given by Dr. Testut of the Chancelade skeleton is to be accepted (and I do not know why it has hitherto been so largely ignored), and if other skulls of Magdalenian age—having the same characters—were discovered, I should attach still greater value than I do to the evidence of identity given by such implements as the arrow-straightener, the throwing-stick and the ivory and bone pegs, handles and buttons common to Eskimo and Magdalenian man. The possibility of the Cromagnard men being accompanied by an allied but somewhat inferior Eskimo-like race—as the Red Indians of the northern lands are by the Eskimo—is an interesting suggestion. But it would take the best part of a lifetime to deal effectively and conclusively with that hypothesis alone.

Professor Sollas is, I think, justified in disclosing to the reading public these guesses and possibilities—with such evidence in their favour as can be hastily put together by utilising existing publications, scattered here and there—because it is certain that whilst some readers will too readily accept all his suggestions as proved and final, others will be irresistibly impelled to investigate these things themselves and to seek for further and decisive evidence concerning them in the remote regions of the earth both above and below the surface.

On one or two matters of detail I venture to differ from Professor Sollas. It is true that a convenient and authoritative set of names for the different forms of flint implements of the Early Stone Age—whether small or large—is greatly needed. But I cannot agree to applying the name "boucher" to large flint implements in honour of Boucher de Perthes. "Boucher" is little better than "coup de poing", and is not defined by anything except size in the proposal of Professor Sollas. I also think that it is to be regretted that Professor Sollas should adopt the dogmatic attitude which he does in regard to evidence as to the occurrence of worked flints of an earlier age than the Pleistocene. It is not the part of a man of science to sweep away all such evidence with the exclamation "Eoliths!" Each such supposed case, if advanced by a competent inquirer with abundant tangible material, requires careful and conscientious investigation on its own merits. It does not do to accept a few ill-made drawings or photographs as evidence pro or con in the matter. The study of large collections can alone enable one to arrive at a reasonable judgment in these matters, and this Professor Sollas has not carried out in regard to the worked flints attributed to pre-glacial man. The bulk and expense of really first-rate illustrations of such specimens are at present obstacles to progress. We require such a society for the publication of materials in illustration

of human palæontology as the Palæontographical Society, which publishes authoritative and voluminous representations of the fossil remains of animals and plants. Professor Sollas will by his book have excited the interest of a larger public in this matter, and has possibly created a body of future subscribers to serious and authoritative works giving ample descriptions and really skilful reproductions of the remains of ancient man and his modern correlatives.

It is, no doubt, inappropriate to raise a discussion on the general doctrine of evolution in connexion with a detached remark made by an author. Nevertheless, I feel justified in drawing attention to what seems to me a regrettable pronouncement to which Professor Sollas commits himself without discussion or attempted justification on the last page but one of his book. He writes (p. 403): "Here we are face to face with that mystery of mysteries, the problem of evolution, for which no ingenuity, however great, has yet furnished a solution. Natural selection, that idol of the Victorian era, may accomplish much, but it creates nothing". In regard to this statement I would merely point out that if by "a solution of the problem of evolution" Professor Sollas means a demonstration of the necessity of the existence of those properties of matter and of matter itself which are manifested in the process of evolution, then he is simply asserting what is a commonplace. There is no solution. Whatever hypothetical cause of "the nature of things" we may assume, there always must remain the problem of the cause of that cause. If, however, Professor Sollas means by "the problem of evolution" the problem of the way in which—given a knowledge of what are called the properties of matter—evolution must take place, then his statement appears to me to be notoriously contrary to fact. The statement that Darwin's demonstration of the existence and operation of natural selection was an idol of the Victorian period, if it means anything, means that there was no such demonstration, that it was an illusion. That again is, in my judgment, an erroneous and misleading statement. The further statement that natural selection "may accomplish much" seems to imply a doubt that it has done so. There seems to me to be no justification for that doubt. The final statement, "but it creates nothing", is, if by the word "create" we are to understand the making of something out of nothing, a platitude; no one ever supposed that it did. If, on the other hand, by a careless use of the word "create" Professor Sollas means to say that natural selection has not produced new arrangements and collocations of (what we agree to call) material particles, then he is stating what very few naturalists will admit to be true. Professor Sollas is not alone in this curious misapprehension. Metaphysicians have objected to the doctrine of the "survival of the fit" that it does not account for the origin of "the fit". Of course it does not; that is another matter and is separately treated. The origin of the fit is accounted for by the great and continually occurring variety in the material submitted to selection and the coincidence of some (a minimal proportion) of the varieties with the survival tests set up by natural selection. The cause of variation in the material upon which selection acts is the universal movement and redistribution of material particles in the kosmos.

A DOG.

By FILSON YOUNG.

VERY trivial beginnings come to great ends. Our beginning, twelve years ago, was in a shop in Great Portland Street, where I saw a small fox terrier puppy whining in a cage, and suddenly realised that for the sum of thirty shillings I could take him out of it. I paid, and took him. He disgraced me on the way home, and exposed me to indignant contumely. If I stooped to speak to him he covered on his belly and whined; when I tried to lead him on the leash he assumed the attitude of a tortoise, and had to be dragged along in such a way that humane people looked askance

at me, saying "There is a monster: even his dog knows his black heart, and will not follow him". I found that he suffered from both rickets and cataract. The second complaint was cured by a vet.; the first gradually yielded to good food and fresh air, and to an apple suspended from a piece of string under the bough of an apple-tree, with which he was never tired of playing. And gradually, too, he began to dare to walk erect upon his legs, and not to collapse if he were spoken to; whatever memories of human cruelty were in his heart gradually faded from it, and gave place to a kind of surprised conviction that not everybody wished to hurt him. But all the inconvenient things that a young dog can do, he did. The art of being sick was carried by him to amazing lengths; he had stronger appetites, and a weaker stomach, than any dog I ever knew, and the moments which he chose for his demonstrations were wonderful in their combination of unexpectedness, inconvenience, and humiliation for his owner. But his own humility was such that he invariably apologised for drawing attention to himself. The latter half of his body was entirely devoted to the demonstration of this humility. If he stood barking (for he soon learned to bark) with his fore-paws planted firmly, his squirming rear-part would apologise for barking. When he ate, his tail wagged apology. When, an hour afterwards, he was sick, the tail vibrated like that of a rattlesnake. If he was drinking, and I happened to cough or make any sound, he would leave his bowl with dripping jaws, quivering apology for having presumed to satisfy his thirst. And there were other necessary and natural functions which he could in nowise be brought to perform except by a studied aversion of gaze on the part of his master, who, standing in the garden on a wet night, had to pretend to be studying the heavens. Every attempt to notice him evoked a silent paraphrase of the reply of Uriah Heep: "Thank you, sir; we know our station, and are thankful in it".

But that phase passed. Time taught him that he was indeed of some consequence in this world, and that he might retain his food without danger of appearing to be unduly presumptuous. And with this knowledge dawned an affection, a capacity for love and devotion, that proved to be the great theme and tragedy of his life. He had his doggy ways and appetites, but they were ever subordinate to the following of his human star—or stars; for happily there were both sun and stars in his heaven, and all shone benignantly upon him. It was his lot to spend many changeable and wandering years with me, now in this place, now in that: in railway trains, in boats, by strange firesides, in field and street, on roads and commons. He witnessed the morning of the motor movement, and travelled many a thousand miles tucked under my left arm while I steered, knowing well that independent movement was not allowed, and staring always, with the true motoring habit, out on the strip of road that flowed and wriggled before us, snuffing anxiously the while, and taking heaven knows what complicated bearings, and registering endless smells and views, lest haply it should be required of him to retrace the long way alone. And after motoring days were over it was long before he broke himself of the habit of leaping into any motor car he saw standing still; for what he had early learned about motor cars was that there was only one place to be, and that was inside them. Most of us know it now, but he knew it from the first.

One of his great trials was the sea, for it happened that at one time I was much upon the sea, and it was a case of choosing whether to come and suffer, or to be left at home in stomachic security. He always chose the nobler part. When the dingy came alongside the slip, his lips would draw away from his set teeth in disgusted anticipation, but he would leap in; when it drew alongside the boat I sailed in he would be the first on board, and hastily, like a model passenger, retire to the depths, out of the way of hurrying feet and slatting ropes. Thereafter, when the floor on which he lay became unstable, he would uneasily shift his position, looking at me with reproachful eyes; and

presently, after moving rapidly over the floor boards with his back humped like a camel's, would take his stand swaying in a public position, and deliver himself over to the crisis in a way that indicated his intention of doing full justice to it. The rest would be an uneasy, dreaming doze, with a final emergence on deck and snuffing of the land as we approached, and final whining, barking, and tail-wagging threats to throw himself into the water and swim to the converging shore.

Those were days of youth and adventure; later days brought him, as they should, a sense of ease and security and dignity, in a world of love tempered by hunger. For he had his besetting weakness—what dog worth the name has not? His was ashpits. He would as soon have thought of drowning himself as of stealing at home; but oh, the delicious combination of blood and sawdust at the door of a butcher's shop, and the grisly treasures to be snatched there; and oh, the fearful joys of heaps that appeared to be nothing but ashes and egg-shells, but that, in fact, like life itself, contained pearls of price for those who could diligently seek! They were well worth the conscience-stricken return home, and almost worth the days of abstinence that followed. It is the time he spends in eating that a dog values—not the quantity of nourishment he gets. He was dieted like a Marienbad patient, and his dinner consisted of carefully selected food of the finest quality; but what was that compared with the long, barren chewing at a fowl's leg, or the guilty gulping of some unidentified organic substance that could be measured, not in inches, but in feet? His earthly friends were supreme with him, but his god was his belly, and it was a god that instantly responded to any sacrifices offered to it. Latterly it seldom rejected any. His figure, since a fat fox terrier is a misery to himself and his friends, was a matter of constant watchful consideration and discussion. Members of his family who had been absent from him for a time would be eagerly asked if he looked any thinner, and it was considered tactless to say he did not. If he escaped for half an hour he would come back distinctly fatter, and be overcome by a strange and far from silent sleep. If it was thought he had come down a little too fine, it could be put right at one meal; but if he had to be reduced, it was a matter of anxious weeks spent on a task which might be frustrated by one moment's lack of vigilance. Yet no mess of food ever existed that he would not leave, and leave gladly, at the sound of a voice that he loved. If it is chiefly on his material weaknesses that I have dwelt, it is because his strength was spiritual and unspeakable; because the affections of his heart, that were his true life, cannot be measured or described to those to whom he was not dear.

And suddenly last week he died, falling like a shock of corn when it is ripe and perfect; without pain, without struggle, with the hands about him that had meant human care and protection and love. Why write of him, do you ask? But what else, since I write here of what interests me, could I write of this week? It is only to a friendly audience that one could speak of him, and I like to think of my SATURDAY readers as not unfriendly to anything that is humanly concerning to any of us. I can raise no stone to him; I will not even write his name here; but I may be forgiven for making, in the presence of people who will understand, this little funeral celebration. He was a part of life as I know it. And as we do not live or grow gradually, so we die, not suddenly, but by degrees: every parting is a little death. There are griefs that it is weak to indulge, idle to dwell upon, useless to communicate; one can only try to change them into something else. . . . Where is he to-night? Where shall I look for him? Not in the empty basket; not in his strange new bed under the orchard grass. Not here or there, I swear, but everywhere in the universe where there is love, and the happiness that love brings, shall that little spirit inhabit, as fresh and fragrant as the blossom of the apple-trees under which he rests.

THE GIANT'S GIFT TO PISH.

By GEORGE A. B. DEWAR.

"COME, come", said the giant to the dwarf who was brandishing at him what looked like a very formidable club covered with knobs and notches, "I don't much like the way you're handling that weapon, you know; if you are not careful you may have an accident—you will be hurting somebody."

"But that is exactly what I have always been trying to do ever since I was born", exclaimed the dwarf in a burst of confidence, for the tone of the stranger invited confidences. "You seem not to know me."

The giant peered down curiously at the dwarf. "I'm afraid . . . I'm afraid", he said in an apologetic manner, "I somehow have overlooked you. I have seen, you know, such a vast number of people in my life that it is very hard to remember them all. May I ask your name?"

"Pish, Pish!" snapped out the dwarf in a loud scornful tone. "There now!" he added with vexation when he saw the giant did not blanch at the name. "It's just the same with you as it is with most of the others. I was born thousands of years ago—though I may be rather small to look at—and I have been assailing great men of various kinds all my days. Yet I never seem to make any real or lasting impression on them. This club", exclaimed Pish, twirling it round once more, "has been flourished and aimed at many of the greatest people in the world from the beginning of civilisation—for I date back", said he proudly, "to its very birth—I was at Gnosus."

"Oh . . . coeval with civilisation", thought the giant; "quite one of the new school, evidently. I must keep more abreast of the times, I can see."

"Yet", continued Pish in accents of chagrin, "I do not cause the damage with my club which I ought. I have struck at the greatest with it, struck at Clive and others—struck tremendous blows. I struck at Hannibal for example—and what" (said the dwarf shrilly) "was the result?"

"Tell me", said the giant, who was evidently as good a listener as the dwarf was talker, "tell me", he said, with his exquisite courtesy.

"Go and look at Selinunte", came the cross reply. "My blows had such a small effect that Hannibal killed the people there and rased that city and the ruins are there to this day."

"And Clive and the others?" asked the giant sympathetically, for he seemed to feel in a grave and kindly way for the disappointment of his new little friend.

"Clive won Plassey—and died", whimpered the dwarf, fairly breaking down at this reminiscence, "by his own hand."

A single small tear oozed out of Pish's eye on to the ground, and, where it fell, the emerald-green grass and the lovely little blue speedwells and forget-me-not flowers turned brown and shrivelled up—such a tear of concentrated gall!

"It has been the same in every case", moaned the dwarf when he had recovered his voice; "I attacked Chatterton, and now he is immortal."

"I begin to think sometimes", he admitted in an agony of doubt and humiliation, for his nerves were quite unstrung at recalling the names of these men he had struck at with all his might without disabling—"I begin to think there must be something wrong with my weapon."

"May I look at it?" said the giant blandly. "I am not a great fighting man myself. I am so big, you see, it is not necessary for me to go about armed; but I might be able to give you some advice. Let me be your armourer."

Such transparent honesty, such benignity shone out of the giant's open face, and his voice and whole manner were so sweet and assuring that the dwarf, after a moment's hesitation, yielded, despite himself, his club to the stranger.

"I should like to know your name, however", he said as he handed up his weapon.

"My name is Humanity", answered the giant, "though some call me Humour."

"I have completely overlooked you, somehow", said the dwarf. "No," he added decisively, scrutinising the giant from head to foot, "I do not know you from Adam."

* * * * *

When Pish was out of sight and hearing the giant began to laugh. He laughed all over. Two great rivers of crystal-clear tears flowed from his eyes, and the sound of the laughter reverberated among all the hills around like grand claps of thunder. Many people in that part of the world thought there was a very heavy thunderstorm going on, and that the floods were rising fast. The people in the neighbouring valleys had a large second crop of meadow grass that summer, thanks to the giant's tears.

"Ho, Ho, Ho", roared the giant, taking up the club and examining it. "It's a very good club for a dwarf to polish off Hannibal and Clive—I . . . don't . . . think!"

Afterwards, when he felt a little less weak from the force of that laughter, the giant put the club in his pocket and went away to see about many things he had to do that day, for he was a very busy giant and had never yet taken an hour's holiday since his birth, somewhere back in the age of the old stone man who lies six feet deep in the gravel drift with the mammoth's molar.

* * * * *

Next day when the two met, the giant said, "I have examined your club, dear Pish, very carefully. It is without doubt a most powerful weapon. But it is not quite suited to you. Now I have got a far better weapon for you, and one which I feel sure you will be able to use with considerable effect."

"Where is it?" asked poor Pish eagerly, for he had sadly missed his club already, and was longing to get to work again.

"Come up", said the giant, tenderly holding out an immense open palm.

The dwarf went rather green. "Just this once", pleaded the giant suavely.

The dwarf, half-hesitating, stepped on to the edge of the palm, and the giant raised him level with his own vast good-humoured countenance. The giant then put his hand into his waistcoat pocket.

"Here", said he to the dwarf, "is the very weapon you are fitted for."

And he presented the dwarf with a tickler.

CORRESPONDENCE.

INDUSTRIAL MALINGERING.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Grand Hotel, Lyndhurst, New Forest,
13 March 1912.

SIR,—You ask "Is Mr. Shaw prepared to shoot malingers of the industrial army?" Of course I am. I am prepared to push the analogy between the militant and the industrial army (suggested long ago by Professor Beesly) much farther than that. In countries where the militant service is decommercialised by being made compulsory and general, the malingering may plead defective sight, weak heart, feeble mind and the like; but he never dreams of pleading the possession of a thousand a year. He would be told very properly that the possession of a thousand millions a year no more exempted him from the duty of defending his country than from the duty of obeying the Ten Commandments. And when we establish not only compulsory military service but compulsory civil service in the fullest industrial and professional sense, we shall not

tolerate idling either from Weary Willie the tramp or Dreary Dolly the millionaire. If he says "I have £40,000 a year: why should I not loaf?", we shall reply "Why should you not murder, steal, ravish, bear false witness, or commit any of the minor crimes that hurt society far less than the crime of the parasite who begs his way, or, worse, pays his way, without working for what he begs or buys? The reason bluntly is that if your sense of honour does not answer the question we shall assume that you have none, and will therefore proceed to shoot you, as the SATURDAY REVIEW very naturally suggests, in order to weed the nation of cads". Even if the creature shrieked for mercy and offered to set to work at once, I should shoot him all the more for being a coward as well as a cad and for offering to work without conviction. Perhaps just for one generation we might allow the plea of inculcation. If the malingerer were to say "How could I see the matter from the point of view of a gentleman? My parents were cads; my schoolmasters were cads; my schoolfellows were cads and the sons of cads; the parson who prepared me for confirmation was a cad; the bishop who confirmed me was a cad; the doctor who vaccinated me was a cad; the daily papers I read were owned, edited, and written by cads: we were all cads; and so we agreed, when a gentleman did by chance turn up, to shout that he was a cad and that we were the gentlemen. I never had a chance; and it's not fair to shoot me", the simple truth of such a plea would be irresistible. But, as I have said, it would lose its force in one generation of honour and patriotism.

Yours truly,
G. BERNARD SHAW.

JACK CADE 1912.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

13 March 1912.

SIR,—As we all know, history has a way of repeating itself. One or other of the miners' representatives is reported to have boasted "We are the Government now". May I suggest that these arrogant gentry might refer to Shakespeare's "King Henry VI." (Part II. iv. 7), where they will find that another "labour leader" gave expression to a similar sentiment? His words were "My voice shall be the Parliament of England". His name was Jack Cade. The same syndicalist hero vowed, among other reformations, that "There shall be, in England, seven halfpenny loaves sold for a penny". Is not this the mediæval prototype of "ninepence for fourpence"?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
T.

FEMINIST WINDOW-BREAKERS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

27 Agate Road, Hammersmith,
9 March 1912.

SIR,—Your correspondent in last week's issue reproaches men for their unchivalrous behaviour towards the suffragettes. As a woman and ex-suffragette myself may I be permitted to point out that the loss of respect shown to them has been brought about by the women themselves. If their shop windows have been broken it has been an act of retaliation, contemptible no doubt, but less contemptible than the violence done to innocent tradesmen's property. I have always supported woman suffrage, and do so still, but I am quite willing to see the postponement of any measure until these tactics are dropped. Should the Government pass an Act in spite of the suffragettes, these women would claim the victory and would only boast still farther of their acts of lawlessness, inciting others who happen to have any petty personal quarrel

with the Government to like violence. Personally, I have no desire to see a measure for the enfranchisement of women passed this session. It is a trying time for constitutional suffragists, but let them wait patiently until the W.S.P.U. has been stamped out before renewing their efforts for this electoral reform. Their time is sure to come, and the victory will be all the greater for their self-sacrifice now.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,
MARION MEIKLEHAM.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

9 March 1912.

SIR,—Your correspondent, Miss Bridey M. O'Reilly, in her letter of 6 March, under the above heading, appeals no less than four times to the chivalry of mankind. But I venture to think had these "mistaken women" lived in the days of chivalry, our ancestors would probably have spoken something to this effect: "By my troth, these hapless ladies are surely possessed by the foul fiend! Minions, bring me hither the ducking stool, and let us endeavour, by the cleansing waters of good Father Thames, to exorcise the evil spirit from these unhappy sufferers!"

I enclose my card, and remain faithfully yours,
ONE OF THE "ANTI-SUFFRAGE WOMEN."

THE DESPISED ENGLISHMAN.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

14 March 1912.

SIR,—In the letter in your last Saturday's issue by Miss Bridey M. O'Reilly the writer "thanks God" that she "is not English". This will of course pass as quite a commonplace of Irish or Welsh public speaking and writing, but hey day, "ye gods and little fishes", what a cry would ascend if an Englishman were, in Wales, Ireland or Scotland, publicly to thank God he was not Welsh, Irish or Scotch, as the case might be!

But here, in London, Miss Bridey M. O'Reilly may throw scorn upon English nationality, and no Englishman will trouble even to laugh at her—still less in the slightest degree to abate his liking and appreciation of the many good fellows of the three other British races (whom he is sure to know) resident amongst us to their own and our "great content", as old Samuel Pepys hath it.

And long may it be so, say I—only, really, I wonder that so many most clubbable men and charming women, who are or imagine themselves to be of Celtic descent, should think it necessary, when "on the stump" in words or writing, so often to give an al fresco version of the Pharisee in the Temple.

I suppose I am going to say a very dreadful thing (which, I fear, spoken in Wales or Ireland might entail boycotting and bashing to a fearful extent), but really, are not these comparatively "tin-pot" nationalities (of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales) within the United Kingdom getting to be something of a nuisance? Why cannot we be all jolly together, and never mind how we respectively "did eventuate"? One of Mark Twain's most philosophical remarks was "There's a deal of human nature in a man"—and a priori in a woman. Why go further?

Yours very obediently,
W. H. EYRE.

WHITES IN WEST AFRICA.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

17 Finborough Road S.W., 6 March.

SIR,—May I thank you for your review of my book "Alone in West Africa"? I can remember in my

youthful days saying that if ever the SATURDAY REVIEW thought me worth even two lines of abuse I should be most uplifted. And now you have given me over a column, and some of it was even praise, so imagine how uplifted I am. Your reviewer writes though as if I did not understand that it was the conditions of life—not the climate—that are so bad in West Africa. That is what I am always trying to impress on my readers and my hearers. He says that women do not go out because of danger, but there are very many places where there is no danger. How do you account for the fact that in Konakri, in French Senegal, there are over two hundred French women of all classes, and in Freetown, Sierra Leone, only sixty miles away, with exactly the same climate, there are under twenty English women? Are the French women stronger or are they better colonists? Your reviewer accuses me of unjustly hinting at dissipation among Government officials, and I would not for the world libel men, most of whom I much respect, but to live healthily in a tropical climate a certain amount of care must be exercised that the best of men freed from the wholesome restraint of women's society are apt not to take. Lucas Malet has said that a house composed solely of women degenerates into dressing gowns and odd meals of tea and toast at odd times; in a word, it lives unhealthily, and a community of men—such is my experience—is apt to relax, and it too lives unhealthily. I do not say it steps over the borders and dissipates except in some cases, for which I could give you chapter and verse; but I do say that freed from the wholesome discipline that the sexes exercise on each other, men in a tropical climate are apt to live unwisely.

Again thanking you, I am faithfully yours,

MARY GAUNT.

MR. MACOWAN AND THE STAGE SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

17 Arlington Park Mansions, Chiswick, W.

12 March 1912.

SIR,—As I have no desire to obtain "a certificate as an intellectual" on false pretences, may I correct a statement in Mr. Palmer's article in the SATURDAY REVIEW of 9 March? The "Stage Society" has never produced a play of mine. Even had I claims to be considered an "intellectual" the society you mention is the last in London I should expect to recognise my work, as I am neither a Socialist nor a gynæcologist.

I am the author of "The Demagogue", produced by the "Play Actors" at the Court Theatre last Sunday, and I had the honour to collaborate with Mr. Fabian Ware in writing "The Chalk Line".

Yours faithfully,

NORMAN MACOWAN.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

12 March 1912.

SIR,—To whom should I apologise?—to Mr. Norman McKeown, author of "Travellers" (the play about a mine), produced by the Stage Society, or to Mr. Norman MacOwan, part-author of "The Chalk Line", produced at the Queen's Theatre? I think, perhaps, my apologies are due both to Mr. McKeown and to Mr. MacOwan; for it is always disagreeable to be taken for someone else.

In any case I will include both authors in my apology to you, Sir. Otherwise Mr. McKeown will be writing to you next week. For I confounded him almost as thoroughly as I confounded your correspondent of to-day.

I am, yours faithfully,

JOHN PALMER.

IS CANADA OVER-BORROWING?

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

13 March 1912.

SIR,—In the City article of your issue of the 9th instant, after attributing to the disturbing influence of the coal strike the lack of absorption of the recent issues put out by the Canadian Government and City of Vancouver, you add the words "In the latter case the lack of response was partly due to the growing impression that it is time to put a break on Canadian municipal and industrial borrowing in order to allow the flood of recent Canadian borrowings to be properly digested".

Admitting, without question, your ability to feel the pulse of the Stock Exchange, and to prescribe for acute attacks of indigestion, one has no fault to find with the physician's diagnosis. As an interested reader of the bulletin, however, I take it that I am justified in asking the medical practitioner whether in his opinion the rise above normal in the patient's pulse has not been simply the result of groundless fear.

A careful study of the figures showing Canadian borrowings in this market during the last four years does not disclose any appreciable increase during the year just ended. On the other hand, in this period, Canada has gone forward with leaps and bounds, and if actual statistics could be given showing the growth in municipal assessment valuations and company capitalisation, the British investor would to-day be asking himself where the extra money in Canada had come from, rather than considering whether he should cut down the amount of his annual allowance.

It must be remembered that every new immigrant going into Canada calls for the supplying to him, or to his employer, of a certain cash capitalisation, in order that he may be given raw materials (be they on the farm, in the mine, in the factory, or elsewhere) with which to work and to earn his livelihood. It is not reasonable to suppose that such an enormous influx of population as Canada has of late experienced could be taken care of simply from the annual profits earned upon Canadian capital.

If these newcomers are to be given work as quickly as they arrive—and that is what is happening in Canada to-day—and if the almost unlimited national resources of the Dominion are to be opened up, money for these purposes must be sent into the country from outside. Nor must it be forgotten that the average British emigrant goes into Canada almost empty-handed, while American emigrants take with them their thousands and frequently tens of thousands of dollars.

On top of this, American capitalists are eagerly buying up Canadian lands, forests, mines and industries to an extent not realised in this country, and if we on this side are going to grudge to our chief Dominion the financial aid that she requires, at this critical time in Imperial history, we certainly need not look for many more such election results as were recorded by the people of Canada in the Anti-Reciprocity Campaign of September last.

But, setting Imperialism and sentiment on one side, it is a generally accepted axiom of finance that it is good policy to put money into a business that is remunerative and that never passes its dividends. It will be time enough for British investors to find fault with Canadian municipal bonds when they are able to show a single loss either of principal or of interest.

Canada is not over-borrowing. So far as Great Britain is concerned, she is under-borrowing. In common fairness, let those who are responsible for having whispered this information into the ears of the British investor make a careful study of the actual facts of the case and they will gladly hasten to undo the injury that will otherwise result from this insidious thrust.

H. K. S. HEMMING.

REVIEWS.

BLACKENING BOSWELL.

"Boswell's Autobiography." By Percy Fitzgerald.
London: Chatto and Windus. 1912. 12s. 6d. net.

MR. PERCY FITZGERALD has made a discovery—what journalists call "a scoop"—which he is generously anxious to present to the world. We all know that there are two views of Boswell's character, the unfavourable one, taken by Macaulay, and the favourable one, taken by Carlyle. Macaulay could see nothing in Boswell but a vain, pushful, thick-skinned snob; Carlyle discerned the genius and nobility of the man. Mr. Fitzgerald is on the side of Macaulay, as he has, of course, a perfect right to be; but he tries to go one better than Macaulay, and in the attempt has committed, in our judgment, a gross literary offence. Mr. Fitzgerald is not content with reminding us, quite needlessly, of Boswell's admitted defects, his conceit, his insensibility to rebuff, his fondness for titled people, his pride of lineage, his malice, his jealousy, his intrusiveness. Far worse remains behind, according to Mr. Fitzgerald, for Boswell, besides all these things, was a crypto-Roman, a confirmed drunkard, suffering from delirium tremens, a runner-after-girls, and—to cap all—a secret enemy of Johnson, whom he sought to belittle and degrade, in order that he might advertise his own superiority. Incomparably the greatest biography in all literature is declared by Mr. Fitzgerald to be in reality an autobiography. Dr. Johnson's life and conversation were a mere pretext, a screen on which the life and conversation of James Boswell were to be thrown. Even if these unpleasant accusations could be proved, we see no advantage, to morality or literature, in bringing them forward to-day. But in their very nature they cannot be proved, except inferentially: and inferential evidence is only resorted to in courts of law, when important issues of life or property are at stake. For a man of letters to force upon the present generation, with a whoop of exultation, the scandalous inferences which he amuses himself by drawing from things that happened a hundred and fifty years ago strikes us as an outrage. Suppose Boswell to have been a Roman Catholic, a sot, an unfaithful husband, a treacherous friend, an unscrupulous enemy. Shall we enjoy his book the less? Very likely Boswell touched up, or even composed, his dialogues with Johnson after the event; the arguments are entertaining however and whenever written. That Boswell joined and left the Church of Rome we can well believe: his was a restless temperament, and pious. That he continued to be a Roman when professing to belong to the Church of England we can find no evidence; nor if the point were proved need we judge Boswell. As Johnson said, in dealing with Dryden's conversion to Romanism, "inquiries into the heart are not for man: we must now leave him to his Judge".

Boswell undoubtedly drank too much; but from the Restoration to the end of the eighteenth century everybody drank. For a gentleman to get drunk at dinner and appear in that condition in a lady's drawing-room was a most venial offence, if it was an offence at all. If Boswell is to be condemned as a sot, then must we condemn Sheridan and Fox and the second Pitt and Lord Temple, and most men of fashion and letters. Mr. Fitzgerald actually brings it as a charge against the man whom he pretends, with most offensive patronage, to love and admire, that his book is egotistical and wanting in self-respect, because he has no reserves from his reader. Why, that is the charm of Pepys, and North, and Boswell, and Greville, our four great diarists! Indelicacy, self-abasement, the sacrifice of dignity to truth, unflinching candour pushed as far as indecorum, these are the marks of a great diary, and of great letters, like those of Cicero. Evelyn's Diary, though very good, is not as good as Boswell's, because it is priggish, and we feel the writer is conventionally decent, though perhaps that was his nature. Mr. Fitzgerald's prudery is only explicable on

the theory that he thought his paradox would take the literary world by storm. We do not remember to have read a book professing to deal critically with a first-rate subject in which penury of knowledge and vulgarity of feeling were more pretentiously disguised. Mr. Fitzgerald cannot even quote correctly. The splendid lines from "The Vanity of Human Wishes",

"Must helpless man, in ignorance sedate,
Roll darkling down the torrent of his fate?"

are murdered by writing "darkly". Matthew Arnold used to complain a good deal of the provincial notes of extravagance and brutality, which spoil so much of our critical and journalistic work. The book before us is a painful example of the truth of the great critic's complaint. It is indeed a base and ignoble work, which satisfies us of what we had long suspected, that Mr. Percy Fitzgerald is not entitled to rank as a serious or responsible critic of literature or history.

THE AMERICANS.

"The American People: a Study in National Psychology." By A. Maurice Low. London: Unwin. 1911. 8s. 6d. net.

MR. LOW concludes in this volume his study of the development, social and political, of the people of the United States. In spite of some repetitions and a somewhat diffuse and disorderly style, the book is on the whole a remarkably able production. In criticism and impartiality, especially where social conditions are concerned, he is more trustworthy than Mr. Bryce. It seems that all books written in America or of America must be too long. Compression might have improved the general effect of this work as the others.

The United States, as they exist to-day, offer a field of wide interest for the sociologist and political philosopher. Several features stand out in considering this great problem. The country is hardly yet civilised, its political framework is not yet definitely established, and it is rapidly acquiring a different relation towards other nations from that which it has hitherto held. The United States, almost against their will, have become a force in world politics, and this must modify their own Constitution. A gradual extension of the central power must be more and more the tendency of the future. In fact forces are at work there, as elsewhere, which may easily become anarchic unless sternly controlled. The less centralised the power of the State the less will be its capacity for meeting the internal troubles that lie ahead and the greater the difficulties in the widening field of its foreign policy.

It is a strange thing that though the most critical foreigner will not gainsay the claim, Americans themselves have shown the greatest hesitation in acknowledging themselves a "nation". When the Episcopal Church was revising its liturgy a few years ago it was proposed to insert certain short prayers, among them "O Lord, bless our nation". This was rejected on the ground that it implied too definite a unity, and finally the words were substituted, "O Lord, bless these United States". This, as was pointed out by Mr. Bryce, was a truly extraordinary incident, when we remember the demonstrative national pride of which nearly all Americans show some trace. It is shrewdly indicated by Mr. Low that the American always forgets that the foreigner who lands in America does not remain a foreigner, assimilation is so rapid that by the second generation it has generally become complete. The strangest part of the whole process is the rapid victory of the English language over the immigrants' mother tongue, whatever it be. Probably history does not present, as Mr. Low says, another case of so complete a fusion over so large an area. There are two main reasons for this. The great majority of the immigrants do not desire to retain their nationality. They did not leave their native land because they were happy there or wanted to return. They have found in America what they had not at home, practical immunity from authority

and control and the means of earning a livelihood easily or more easily than at home, and they desire to stay. So they are content to forget their own language. In the second place, the object of all these people is to get on, and one absolutely essential preliminary is to be able to speak English. Without English the immigrant remains a working hand and nothing more; he can never raise himself out of the ruck. Therefore in the second generation, or at most in the third, national differences disappear and there only remains an American. Even the Jewish antipathy to outside influences is weakened, and, according to Mr. Low, "the new generation adopts the free manners of the country, ignoring those exclusive barriers which the race itself has set".

In a very interesting chapter the writer deals with the influence of immigration on the development of the country, and comes to conclusions which have not been generally accepted. Yet we find it hard to resist his reasoning and the ample array of instances on which it is based. The Americans, as he rightly argues, were originally a "sectional people", the South was in every way—in character, habits and pursuits—different from the North, and it is in great measure due to the presence of the immigrant that the two sections have not sprung apart. One great emotional asset the two divisions of the States had in common; they believed their country to be the mother of "freedom" and "democracy". The presence of the immigrant was a concrete example of the truth of this pretension. Besides, being a foreigner, he was not in any way "sectional" in the American sense, therefore the presence of immigrants and their continual increase tended to the fusion of the two divisions. The lowest kind of work also was left to the immigrant, and the great mass of American labour was thus forced upwards. The American born was driven up by the Irish and Germans. And now the Irish and Germans have been driven up by the Italians and Jews. The lowest in the scale is the Jew, Polish and otherwise, and no one has yet succeeded in underbidding him, the Chinaman being forbid. But meanwhile the British strain in the end remains dominant. In fact the German type has not the resisting quality of the English, or indeed of the Slav. This phenomenon is not peculiar to America. It may be observed in European countries where the Teuton encounters other races. In Prague, for instance, and in other Bohemian towns, the German element after two or three generations is absorbed in the Czech.

Mr. Low devotes some attention to the causes of the rebellion of the British colonies, but here, though his views are sound on the whole, he is touching ground already well traversed. He is more original when dealing with the existing state of the country and the influence of recent events. He inclines to exaggerate the progress already made, but it is true that while before the Spanish War the American outlook was almost entirely parochial, since then men's vision has broadened and there is increased inclination to look at matters affecting other nations with an attempt to understand them. America now has a foreign field for her Civil Service, and the American character will be much more strongly modified by these influences as time goes on. It may perhaps have much the same effect as a great overseas Empire is exercising on the character of the Frenchmen who administer it.

Mr. Low should rejoice the heart of Dean Inge. Unlike most writers who deal with the United States, especially English writers, he is no flatterer of Democracy. His most instructive chapters are those in which he describes the almost universal contempt for law and the bad manners prevalent throughout the Union. These are the worst features of American life, and certainly require explanation. Superficial reasons are obvious, but far from completely convincing. Mr. Bryce, with the dangerous tendency to see "tout en rose" in America which mars an otherwise great work tries to believe that equality improves manners by inducing mutual respect. From this view, contrary as it is to all experience, the author of this book differs entirely. He knows that an English aristocrat in a

third-class carriage will converse on equal terms with all its occupants, while most rich Americans would be informing their companions that they were undergoing an undesirable and unwonted experience. In America there are no traditions to observe, and people have been too busy to use ten words for the sake of politeness where three will ensure what they want. Summing up, he says "the effect of equality is not to inspire respect between man and man, but to promote snobbishness". This is absolutely true and is borne out by observation of the growth of democracy in other communities. Contempt for the law is a still graver defect in American democracy. Mr. Low tersely says that there are more laws and less law in America than in any other land claiming to be civilised. Legislative enactments indeed pour out of the machine at Washington like cigarettes in a tobacco manufactory. Yet no one marks them. From his cradle the American is lawless, parents and teachers exercise no authority over children who are a law to themselves, and there are no traditions of discipline as there is no accepted standard of gentlemanly conduct in the Universities. These unhappy conditions also prevail in commercial dealings. Another cause may undoubtedly be found in the widely varying laws of different States. In fact both the citizen and the body politic suffer from grossly exaggerated attention to self. The day will surely come, says the author, when all this will be changed. No doubt, if the United States hold together, but they have much to weather. The horizon is already darkening for a social and political storm.

THE LITTLE BROTHER OF EVERYMAN.

"Little Brother." By Gilbert Cannan. London: Heinemann. 1912. 6s.

IN the first place Mr. Cannan introduces us to Mordaunt Montague Lawrie, Fellow of his College at Cambridge, who is supposed to have deposited with Mr. Cannan the MS. of a book which he hesitated to publish himself. Secondly, in this MS. Mr. M. M. Lawrie presents Stephen, the Little Brother of the book, whose autobiography it is, though rewritten by his brother. The result of this elaborate method of literary presentment is that the reader has to carry in his mind the figure of Stephen Lawrie, writing a close analysis of himself, controlled and corrected by the unsympathetic if not antagonistic spirit of M. M. Lawrie, and revised, edited and annotated by Mr. Cannan. There is even a fourth collaborator in the shape of the elder brother's wife Mary, who looks over her husband's shoulder and supplies interjections recorded by him in parentheses. All this machinery might seem cumbrous and intricate for the purpose of portraying a single figure, and anybody less clever than Mr. Cannan might well have failed to keep the personalities of the contributors distinct. Even as it is, when the reader closes the book, he seems to look back into an ordered chaos of wheels within wheels; but the test of success lies in the answer to the question—does he get a clear vision of the Little Brother?

Undoubtedly the answer is Yes—and a good deal more; for these things are an allegory. "Little Brother" is Everyman's younger self, the unworldly and unsophisticated, still trailing clouds of glory, though adult in body and emotions. Stephen Lawrie is supposed to have "disappeared", and it is a brilliant conception on Mr. Cannan's part to have undertaken to put Stephen's self-analysis through the cold machine of Mordaunt's criticism; for he thus achieves the narrative of the spirit set forth by the clay. But though this allegory is woven through the stuff of the book, there is much humanity in Mr. Cannan's deliberate process of exhibiting the unassailable bonds between the body and the soul; Mordaunt and Stephen are traced from their boyhood in a North-country home, amongst a number of relatives admirably drawn. We shall not forget Tibby the nurse, a figure who would have gone straight to the heart of Robert Louis Stevenson.

Thence, Stephen proceeds to a curious career at Cambridge, where he lives with his cousin George, a specialist in Greek coinage, who afterwards upsets Stephen's preconceptions by marrying and thoroughly revolts him by becoming the father of a child. Finally achieving his ambition of living in London, Stephen begins his adventures, and comes into contact successively with Miss Laxton, who writes letters to him sometimes twice a day, Alison Holt, who had been a servant in his father's household, and Miss Wherry, the daughter of a great man.

Robert Wherry, or rather—as the man himself appears infrequently—Wherreanism is Stephen's *bête noire*. Mr. Cannan's picture of Wherry is very carefully drawn; we would almost say lovingly, were it not for the fact that his sympathies in this matter are obviously with Stephen. Wherry is the type of person who either has never had a "Little Brother" or has deliberately murdered him as being an obstacle in his own road to success. Wherry is a "great man"; Stephen's grandfather knew him and welcomed him; everybody tells Stephen that Wherry is a great man; Stephen for a while himself believes it, but comes to perceive the blood of fratricide on his hands. By way of contrast we have a thumbnail sketch of Mrs. Wherry, a lady who is allowed to have the "Family Herald" for her literature; the paper is concealed by the upholstery of her armchair, and Wherry and his daughter pretend that they have forgotten it is there.

Certainly Mr. Cannan excels in capturing domestic atmospheres; that of Stephen's home, at the beginning of the book, is perhaps the most truly drawn; this of Wherry's is the most amusing; but equally brilliant are those of the Laxtons' staid establishment in South Kensington, and the quaint little shop in a Bloomsbury slum where Stephen finds Alison. A critic, Stephen thought, "was a man who defended the community from marauders who disguised nullity of meaning or worse behind sentences strung together plausibly enough". Mr. Cannan is by no means a marauder of this type, and we make, by way of gratitude, but one criticism. The book opens dully, partly because the reader has to accustom himself to the triple layer of personality referred to above. As he says, "to be asked for reasons and to refer back to sentiment is to satisfy nine-tenths of humanity—the other tenth will not read these pages". We do not agree with these percentages, but we trust that at least an intelligent minority will penetrate to the heart of "Little Brother".

THE ARAB AT HOME.

"The Land of Uz." By Abdullah Mansur (G. Wyman Bury). London: Macmillan. 1911. 8s. 6d. net.

THE Arabian littoral of the Aden region is the very image of sterility. The landscape is a dead landscape. Its tawny sand seems to reflect the glare and glow of the sun's rays, and its dry particles drifting and blown by the desert wind meet the very idea of vegetable growth with a sneer of derision. It is, however, the habit of that most merciful dispensation of Providence, the oasis, to appear amid surroundings which seem most to need and most to despair of the presence of vegetation, and Mr. Bury, in his book on Southern Arabia, gives us a few lines of description of the oasis of Lahej, between Aden and the mountains, with its "miles of date-groves and heavily-scented gardens of lime, orange, banana and cocoanut", its singing birds, and cool breeze of evening "whispering across the tall plumes of the twelve-foot jowari-crops", which convey in their vividness an excellent idea of the impression which these isolated gardens make upon the desert traveller. The usual tale of Arab occupation is written over the country. There are signs to show that the vegetation, now contracted to the pin's point of the oasis, was once, with the aid of irrigation, extended in various directions over a larger area. In the days of the Himyarite Kingdom, perhaps 2000 or 3000 years ago, the fertility of Southern Arabia maintained a settled

population, and vestiges of cities still survive in the desert which once no doubt were surrounded with cultivated land. Mr. Bury adduces some evidence to show that the rainfall was greater at that period than it now is, and suggests that it is on that account that "the demon of desiccation, who has laid his desolating grip on so much of Central Asia, has been at work in Arabia". There may be a foundation for this conjecture, but besides the demon of desiccation the activities of the Bedouin Arabs are not to be overlooked. Throughout the extent of the great sand-belt the almost invariable condition of fertility is the construction and maintenance of irrigation works. Wherever there existed a Government strong enough to maintain a permanent irrigation system agriculture flourished as it only can flourish in a hothouse climate. But the upkeep of waterways and aqueducts is, in such cases, a condition of existence from year to year, and no sooner is the discipline of Government relaxed and the mechanism of the water supply allowed to fall out of repair, than the desert, quick to seize its opportunity, creeps back to reoccupy the territory from which it had been excluded. It is a singular thing that wherever the nomad Arabs, capricious and unstable in matters of administration as they have ever proved themselves, have become established, there sooner or later the existing system of irrigation has fallen to decay, and its decay has heralded the return of the desert. Throughout ancient Babylonia and Syria and North Africa the ruins of the great brick-built canals and miles of aqueduct fallen into desuetude reveal in their rents and gaps the actual wounds under which flourishing civilisations of old have perished. Their infliction is always to be traced to Arab invasion and occupation, for the fickle impulses of the Arab temperament have always proved inadequate to the upkeep of engineering works involving the systematic supervision of skilled labour. It would almost seem as if the Bedouin tribesmen were to be regarded as the human emissaries of the desert itself, whose mission it was to re-establish those conditions of desert life which have always been most favourable to their own existence.

It is however less with the problems of the plain than with the politics of the mountain that the book we are dealing with is concerned. The tall ranges, seamed with nullahs and ravines, which rise five or six thousand feet in air from the low-lying coast-belt and slope north-eastward to "the empty region" of pure desert, are populated, or garrisoned, by tribes whose feudal bickerings and forays and light-hearted looting expeditions are a constant source of worry, excitement or interest to the Aden garrison. Mr. Bury, or Abdullah Mansur, to give him his native appellation, seems to have been on the visiting list of all the hill chiefs, and, in the course of the ten years of his experience of their country, to have been admitted to terms of intimacy and friendship by a good many of them. Speaking their language like one of themselves, and in the same degree versed in their customs, usages, and etiquette, Mr. Bury, in the course of his desultory wanderings, interviews, and chance conversations with Arab hosts, gives us glimpses into Arab character, and elucidates, perhaps unconsciously, the Arab point of view and philosophy of life as only a traveller perfectly familiar with the people and the country can do. Not that such terms of intimacy were in the least permitted to stand in the way of an occasional skirmish or ambushade, when, as was not seldom, the hillmen chanced to be in a fighting mood, and some of the most lively pages of a lively book are those which describe the various little "affairs" which the author and his escort are let in for among the defiles and peaks which buttress the great Arabian plateau.

Mr. Bury describes the purpose of his book as a two-fold one. He intends in the first place to give some account of the tribes of the Aden Protectorate, of our own somewhat difficult and delicate relations with them, of our occasional interference in inter-tribal politics, and of the causes which led to the Anglo-Turkish Boundary Commission of 1902. In the second portion of his work he deals "with the remoter tribes of the Arabian hinterland, from the point of view of an explorer living among them and sharing—so far as an alien

may—their interests and daily life”. The author has the advantage of treating in his narrative of a country very little known to Europeans, yet possessing considerable historical and geographical interest, the home in ancient days of powerful dynasties, and to-day peopled by a race, turbulent indeed and often treacherous, yet endowed with fine instincts and high traditions of courtesy which frequently lend an attraction even to their most questionable acts. He has used his material to good purpose. Apart from an occasional touch of bravado, the style of his book is fresh and vigorous. It is a narrative by one who, having seen and experienced much, writes out of the same keen interest which inspired his travels. We can only hope that he will some day be enabled to carry out his cherished project of exploring the “Empty Desert” north of the great ranges, and returning, write us another book as good as this.

SHORTER NOTICES.

“The Collected Works of William Morris.” Vols. IX.—XII. London: Longmans. 1911. £12 12s. the 24 vols.

This instalment of the large edition of Morris includes some of his best work. “Poems by the Way” contain several characteristic verses, such as “The Message of the March Wind”. Morris’ talent, like Tennyson’s, is never so well seen as in the creation of small pictures—little landscapes. “Sigurd the Volsung”, considered by many of his admirers to be the poet’s most important effort in romantic epic, is also here, as well as the translation of Vergil’s “Aeneids”. This work, viewed as one would regard (for example) Chapman’s Homer, bears full evidence of the decorative gift and swinging sense of metre over which Morris had easy command. To criticise it as a translation, strictly considered, would hardly be just. This version is Vergil seen through the medium of a neo-romantic atmosphere. It certainly fails of what probably was never intended—a reproduction in English of the mystical dignity—a ceremonial gravity, which Vergil of all poets possesses. The Sixth Book, to which one inevitably refers by way of test in any translation, yields little, in the Morris version, of the original romance. Vergil here is truly romantic, but in a manner almost ecclesiastical. He anticipates the Gothic art. Morris seizes the tale, the fairy side of the narrative, rather than this elusive quality which those who feel the original can instantly recognise.

“The Aristoxenian Theory of Musical Rhythm.” By C. F. Abdy Williams. Cambridge: At the University Press. 1911. 12s. 6d. net.

This book is not quite so dry as the title would lead one to expect. It makes full use of the researches and speculations of Westphal, Gevaert and a host of others; and some of the chapters are not less than appalling in the profundity and complexity with which the author treats a subject that demands lucidity and simplicity above all things. Not since David explained the rules of the old Mastersingers of Nuremberg to Walther von Stolzing has music been made to appear so intricate and puzzling an art. Per contra, there is much stimulating suggestiveness for musicians who are on the look-out for a way of being original without much effort. Old Aristoxenus, in the few scraps that have come down to us, formulated the laws governing the chanting of Greek verse; and he certainly never dreamed of twentieth-century composers, with the arts of counterpoint and harmony at their command, going back to him for hints. Probably Mr. Williams is quite right in assuming that, just as in recent times subtleties of harmony and harmonic modulation have been introduced into music, so from its first crude beginnings with dance-metres the rhythms of the Greek were refined, and curious variations devised, until a mode of expression was reached that to Greek ears was peculiarly poignant. That is, they developed a sense which has since been lost. Whether it is in the nature of our harmonic music to permit us to regain it is a question indeed. But music must go on adding to its means of uttering human feeling and Mr. Williams may be right in thinking that amongst these means rhythmic subtleties and intricacies may find an important place. The publishers can hardly expect many musicians to buy the book. Fate has decreed that few musicians shall be millionaires; and twelve shillings and sixpence for so thin a volume is rather a heavy tax.

“Margaret of France, Duchess of Savoy.” By Winifred Stephens. London: Lane. 1912. 12s. 6d. net.

We are glad to be able to commend this book as something greatly superior to the mere hack work so often associated

with the so-called “lives” of Renaissance personages, chiefly French. It is a genuine attempt to give an account, based on wide historical reading, of a distinguished woman who passed her life in the midst of great events. With the exception of a brief and inadequate biography published in Paris ten years ago, we are not aware of any monograph on the subject. As the sister of Henry II. of France and the wife of Emmanuel Philibert Duke of Savoy she moved in the midst of the stirring events of the time, 1523-1574. In spite of the surroundings of a Renaissance Court, Margaret’s life seems to have been singularly free from any credible scandals. As the patron of Ronsard, she deserves the recognition of after-ages which she has hitherto received in singularly meagre degree. As Duchess of Savoy she protected the Waldenses, and indeed was on the whole a woman of tolerant mind and no small capacity for action. Her life was well worth writing.

“Supplement to the Fourth Report of the Wellcome Tropical Research Laboratories.” London: Paillière, Tindall and Cox. 1911. 15s. net.

This is the second Review or Supplement to the fourth Report on similar lines; but whilst the first Supplement only contained 251 pages, the second contains 448. This is some measure of the growth in importance of the literature of tropical medicine, and the extension of investigations into the origin and treatment of every known variety of tropical disease. Thanks to the Wellcome Laboratories and similar institutions for the study of tropical medicine, these diseases are being tracked out and subdued in regions which have hitherto been almost uninhabitable by Europeans. Dr. Andrew Balfour, the Director; Captain R. G. Archibald, the Pathologist and Assistant Bacteriologist; Captain N. R. Fry, Protozoologist and Assistant Bacteriologist; and Captain W. R. O’Farrell have collaborated in selecting and summarising the more important authoritative English, French, German and other writings issued between the first Review and the present date. Students and practitioners alike will find this work indispensable not only as tracing historically the course of bacteriological discoveries, but as setting out the best contemporary treatment for the diseases which originate in bacteria. It is not less indispensable for being the last Review to be issued from Khartoum. From the point where it leaves off the résumé of current literature on bacteriology and protozoology will in future be found in the monthly Review Supplement of “The Medical Officer”.

For this Week’s Books see page 344.

DISTINCTIVE SYSTEM OF ASSURANCE.

LOW PREMIUMS. LOW EXPENSES.
LARGE ULTIMATE BONUSES.
FUNDS - - - £15,000,000.

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.

London: 3 Lombard Street, E.C. West End: 17 Pall Mall, S.W.
HEAD OFFICE: 6 ST. ANDREW SQUARE, EDINBURGH.

SUN LIFE

OFFICE. Estd. 1810.

LIFE & ENDOWMENT ASSURANCES.

WITH or WITHOUT

MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

ANNUITIES.

SINKING FUNDS.

“SCIENTIFIC SAVING,” post free on application to the General Manager, 63 Threadneedle Street, London, E.C.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED),

HOLBORN BARS, LONDON, E.C.

INVESTED FUNDS - £80,000,000.
CLAIMS PAID - - - £94,000,000.

ALLIANCE

ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Head Office: BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON.

ASSETS EXCEED £22,000,000.

Chairman:

Right Hon. LORD ROTHSCHILD, G.C.V.O.

Among the Classes of Insurance transacted by the Company are the following:—

- (1) **LIFE INSURANCE**, with and without profits, with special provisions for the payment of Estate Duties.
- (2) **FIRE INSURANCE** of every description.
- (3) **INSURANCES TO COVER LOSS OF RENT, INTEREST, AND PROFIT** consequent upon Fire damage to property.
- (4) **MARINE INSURANCE.**
- (5) **BURGLARY, THEFT, AND PLATE GLASS INSURANCE.**
- (6) **ACCIDENT**, including Personal Accident, Motor Car and Employers' Liability Insurance.

Fidelity Guarantee and Sinking Fund Policies are also granted.

Applications for Agencies are entertained, and Prospectuses with other papers may be had on written or personal application.

ROBERT LEWIS, General Manager.

GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

Mortgages.]

ESTABLISHED 1837.

[Annuities.

FUNDS EXCEED £2,000,000.

Chief Office: 103 CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Board of Directors.

ALFRED JAMES SHEPHEARD, Esq., Chairman.
LORD ARTHUR CECIL, Deputy Chairman.

H. J. BRACEY, Esq.

H. E. DUKE, Esq., K.C., M.P.

Hon. R. C. GROSVENOR.

Sir JOHN JARDINE, K.C.I.E., M.P.

C. E. VERNON RUTTER, Esq.

ROBERT HENRY SCOTT, Esq., F.R.S., D.Sc.

Rt. Hon. Viscount VALENTIA, C.B., M.V.O., M.P.

Double advantage policies issued securing two payments of the amount assured—one payment on the attainment of a specific age, and a second payment at death thereafter.

Advances made on Reversions, vested or contingent, and Life Interests, and on Personal Security in connection with a Life Policy.

JOHN ROBERT FREEMAN, Manager and Secretary.

EAGLE

INSURANCE COMPANY

(ESTABLISHED 1807).

Whole-Life, Non-Profit Policies at SPECIAL LOW RATES.

World-wide and Indisputable Policies with GUARANTEED SURRENDER VALUES.

Apply for revised Prospectus.

Head Office: 79 PALL MALL, LONDON, S.W.

CHELTENHAM COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS.

Examination June 4th, 5th and 6th. At least Eight Entrance Scholarships, value £80 to £120, and some House Exhibitions will be offered to Candidates who are not already in the College, whether Senior or Junior Department, including James of Hereford Scholarship, value £35 per annum, with preference for boys born, educated or residing in Herefordshire. Also, open to all, three Army Scholarships, two Old Cheltonian Scholarships, one Francis Wyllie Scholarship.

Some Nominations for Sons of the Clergy, value £30 per annum, are open for next term. Apply to the BURSAR, the College, Cheltenham.

ROYAL SOCIETY of PAINTER-ETCHERS and ENGRAVERS, 5A Pall Mall East, S.W.—30th ANNUAL EXHIBITION, 10-6. Open Tuesdays 10-6, and 10-8 every day during the last week. Admission 1s. W. GORDON MEIN, Secretary.

An Income Worth Having

Whether you obtain your income from investments in Consols, Railways, Industrials, or other forms of security, you are always handicapped by the fact that the safer your investment is, the smaller return do you obtain for your money.

So it frequently happens that, in the endeavour to obtain that little extra income which means so much added comfort, people invest their capital in hazardous undertakings and lose their all. And even if the money is not actually lost, there are many persons whose lives are embittered by constant anxiety regarding the safety of their money. An enquiry regarding a Canada Life Annuity would save much trouble.

A man of 60 can obtain from an Investment of £1,000 an income of £95 15s. 8d.,

and he can rest absolutely secure in the knowledge that his money will be paid to him in full on the appointed day.

These annuities are secured by the whole of the assets of the Canada Life Assurance Company, amounting to over nine millions sterling.

The annuity rates have recently been revised and offer now to annuitants the best value obtainable in Great Britain.

Write for special Annuity booklet (stating your age); it will be sent post free from their Head Office,

Canada Life Assurance Company,

14, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.

There is TERRIBLE SUFFERING among the respectable poor owing to inability

TO BUY COAL.

THE CHURCH ARMY

will most gratefully receive contributions towards making SMALL GIFTS OF COAL to the very poorest (who have nothing to do with the strike EXCEPT TO SUFFER) and otherwise relieving their urgent needs during the present distress.

Cheques crossed "Barclay's, a/c Church Army," earmarked "Coal Fund," payable to Prebendary Carlile, Hon. Chief Secretary, Headquarters, 55 Bryanston Street, W.

EARLSWOOD ASYLUM:

The National Training Home for the Feeble-Minded, REDHILL, SURREY.

E. C. P. HULL, Esq., J.P., Treasurer and Chairman of the Board.

FOR CHILDREN unable to learn in ordinary schools and those requiring control with expert supervision.

SELECTED CASES admitted on reduced inclusive fees.

THOSE UNABLE TO PAY admitted by votes of Subscribers, either free or with part-payment.

OVER 300 PATIENTS supported by Voluntary Contributions.

Full information and advice: **Mr. H. HOWARD, Secretary**, 36 King William St., E.C. Telephone: 7684 LONDON WALL.

THE SWEDENBORG SOCIETY.

A CONVERSAZIONE will take place at the Royal Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East, on Tuesday, March 26, at 7.30 p.m., at which a Lecture will be delivered by Prof. Sir W. F. BARRETT, F.R.S., on "SWEDENBORG'S PHILOSOPHY IN THE LIGHT OF MODERN SCIENCE: THE SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE OF NATURE"; His Excellency Count WRANGEL presiding.

Members of learned Societies who desire to be present may apply to the SECRETARY, SWEDENBORG SOCIETY, 1 Bloomsbury Street, W.C., when tickets will be sent so far as the remaining space will allow.

SALES BY AUCTION.

THE CHARLES BUTLER COLLECTIONS.

THIRD PORTION of the extensive and valuable Library of the late CHARLES BUTLER, Esq., of Warren Wood, Hatfield, and Connaught Place, W.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON & HODGE will SELL by AUCTION, at their House, No. 13 Wellington Street, Strand, W.C., on Monday, March 18, and Two Following Days, the THIRD PORTION of the extensive and valuable LIBRARY of the late CHARLES BUTLER, Esq. (of Warren Wood, Hatfield, and Connaught Place, W.), comprising Early Service Books, both Manuscript and Printed; Editions Principes; Eighteenth Century French Illustrated Books; Caxton's Chronicles of England, Second Edition; Fine Copies of Greek and Latin Classics; Early Italian Woodcut Books, County Histories and English Illustrated Works; Bibliographical Works, Books on the Fine Arts, &c.; many in fine bindings, selected from the most famous Libraries dispersed during the last fifty years.

May be viewed. Catalogues may be had.

BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON & HODGE will SELL by AUCTION, at their House, No. 13 Wellington Street, Strand, W.C., on THURSDAY, March 21, and Following Day, at 1 o'clock precisely, BOOKS and MANUSCRIPTS, including the Property of Sir ROBERT EDGUMBE; Engravings, the Property of a GENTLEMAN; a portion of the Library of the late MATTHEW PEERS WATT BOULTON, Esq., removed from Tew Park, Eton (sold by order of the Trustees), and other Properties, comprising Standard Works in English and Foreign Literature, Important Historical and Topographical Works, Galleries and other Large Works on Art; First Editions of Modern Authors; Reynolds' Works, 4 vol. 1899; Publications of the Palaeographical Society, Bevin's Ornaments, Chippendale's Cabinet Maker's Director, 1754; Houghton Gallery, Ornamental Designs by Le Pautre and others; Lodge's Portraits, large paper, 1821-34; Meisnier's Work on Ornament; Turner's Liber Studiorum and Rivers of France; First Editions of the Writings of English Dramatists and Poets; Works on America, Travel and Sport; Pamphlets, &c.

May be viewed two days prior. Catalogues may be had.

THE Naval & Military Record AND Royal Dockyards Gazette.

EVERY WEDNESDAY.
PRICE TWOPENCE.

LORD BRASSEY, addressing the Cape Town Naval Volunteers in February, 1910, said:—"As I shall not have another opportunity of speaking in this country, it is proper that I should make known the very latest facts in connection with the Navy. My information is gleaned from 'The Naval and Military Record,' quite the best Service journal, the latest number of which has just reached me." Lord Brassey also quoted at considerable length from "The Record's" leading article on the progress of the Dockyards during the past year.

London and Private Wire Office: 47 FLEET ST., E.C.
Chief Office: 31 GEORGE STREET, PLYMOUTH.

Sport
Society
Drama

THE BYSTANDER

SIXPENCE. Every Tuesday.

Politics
Literature
Fiction

THE BEST OF THE LIGHT ILLUSTRATED WEEKLIES.
A PICTORIAL RECORD OF THE WEEK'S DOINGS.

* * You do not only glance at "THE BYSTANDER," you READ it. It is Unique, Sparkling, Daring, Original.

TERSE AND TRUTHFUL CRITICISM.

"WORLDLY" SHORT STORIES.

SPORT: a Speciality. GOLF, HUNTING, LAWN TENNIS.

Published by the Proprietors of the "GRAPHIC," Tallis House, Tallis Street, E.C.

R. ANDERSON & CO.,
BRITISH, INDIAN, AND COLONIAL ADVERTISEMENT
CONTRACTORS,

14 KING WILLIAM STREET, STRAND, W.C.,
GIVE THE BEST TERMS for Company and General Advertising. Advice,
Estimates, and all information free of charge. Replies received.

ELY CATHEDRAL.

Visitors will find First Class Hotel Accommodation at the "LAMB" Family Hotel, which is situated close to the Cathedral.
MODERATE TERMS. Omnibus meets all trains.

Proprietor, S. AIREY.

THIS WEEK'S BOOKS.

BIOGRAPHY.

William Morris (Countess of Warwick). Jack. 1s. 6d. net.
One Look Back (Right Hon. George W. E. Russell). Wells Gardner. 10s. 6d. net.
Leo XIII. and Anglican Orders (Viscount Halifax). Longmans. 12s. 6d. net.

FICTION.

Up to Perrin's (Margaret B. Cross); Commoners' Rights (Constance Smedley). Chatto and Windus. 6s. each.
When God Laughs (Jack London); Aliens Near of Kin (N. Vernon). Mills and Boon. 6s. each.
Maids in Many Moods (H. Louisa Bedford); The Unholy Estate (Douglas Sladen). Stanley Paul. 6s. each.
Father William (S. L. Bensusan). Arnold. 5s. net.
Violet Forster's Lover (Richard Marsh). Cassell. 6s.
In Accordance with the Evidence (Oliver Onions). Secker. 6s.
Passion-Fruit (E. Charles Vivian). Heinemann. 6s.
The Snake (F. Inglis Powell). Lane. 6s.
The Conflict (David Graham Phillips). Appleton. 6s.
Charity (R. B. Cunningham Graham). Duckworth. 6s.

HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

The Gambia (Henry Fenwick Reeve). Smith, Elder. 10s. 6d. net.
The Fall of the Mogul Empire (Sidney J. Owen). Murray. 7s. 6d. net.
An Artillery Officer in the Mexican War, 1846-7 (Eba Anderson Lawton). Putnam. 7s. 6d. net.
Byways in British Archaeology (Walter Johnson). Cambridge: At the University Press. 10s. 6d. net.
The Churches in Britain before A.D. 1000 (Rev. Alfred Plummer). Vol. II. Scott. 5s. net.

LAW.

The Commercial Laws of the World (General Editor, William Boustead). Vol. II. South America: Sweet and Maxwell. 42s. net.

NATURAL HISTORY.

Tree Lore (Francis George Heath). Kelly. 3s. 6d. net.

REPRINTS AND TRANSLATIONS.

Science and Religion in Contemporary Philosophy (Emile Boutroux). 5s. net; In the Foreign Legion (Erwin Rosen). 3s. 6d. net. Duckworth.

SCHOOL BOOK.

The Restoration and the Revolution, 1660-1715 (Arthur Hassall). Rivingtons. 2s. 6d.

SCIENCE.

Microbes and Toxins (Dr. Etienne Burnet). Heinemann. 5s. net.

THEOLOGY.

Liturgy and Life (Robert Charles Joyn). Robert Scott. 3s. 6d. net.
The Christian Hope: A Study in the Doctrine of Immortality (William Adams Brown). Duckworth. 2s. 6d. net.
A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Book of Isaiah (chapters i.-xxxix.), by George Buchanan Gray. Edinburgh: Clark. 12s.

TRAVEL.

The Pacification of Burma (Sir Charles Crosthwaite). Arnold. 16s. net.
The Normandy Coast (Charles Merk). Fisher Unwin. 6s. net.
Winchester, The Isle of Wight (Pictured by Ernest Haslehust, described by Edward Thomas); Ulster, Leinster (Pictured by Alexander Williams; Described by Stephen Gwynn). Blackie. 2s. net each.

VERSE.

Poems (Seumas O'Sullivan); Etain the Beloved and Other Poems (James H. Cousins); The Hill of Vision (James Stephens). Dublin: Maunsell. 3s. 6d. net each.
One Hundred and Five Sonnets (Isidore G. Ascher). Oxford: Blackwell. 2s. 6d. net.
Historical Ballad Poetry of Ireland (Arranged by M. J. Brown). Dublin: Educational Company of Ireland. 3s. 6d.
Poems (William Sharp). Heinemann. 5s. net.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Art of Worm-Fishing, The (Alexander Mackie). Black. 1s. 6d. net.
Burlesques and Parodies (G. H. Powell). Cambridge: Heffer. 1s. net.
Gardens in their Seasons (C. von Wyse). Black. 1s. 6d.
Insurance Act and Yourself, The (Horace B. Samuel). Murby. 6d. net.
La Littérature et les Idées Nouvelles (Alexandre Mercereau). Swift. 3s. net.
Taoist Teachings from the Book of Lieh Tzu (Lionel Giles). Murray. 2s. net.
Things that Matter (L. G. Chiozza Money, M.P.). Methuen. 5s. net.
White Gods, The. Werner Laurie. 3s. 6d. net.
X-Rays on Roulette Systems (L. Rasch). Ham-Smith. 5s. net.

THE FAUNA OF BRITISH INDIA, including Ceylon and Burma, published under the authority of the Secretary of State for India in Council. Medium 2vo. with text illustrations. **COLEOPTERA.** General Introduction and CINCIDELIDÆ and PAUSSIDÆ. 2s.
London: Taylor & Francis, Red Lion Court, Fleet-street; Calcutta and Simla: Thacker, Spink & Co.; Bombay: Thacker & Co. Ltd.; Berlin: Friedlander und Sohn, Carlstrasse 12.

A WORD OF WARNING
TO MEN AND WOMEN
OF THE WORLD.

GUY THORNE'S

New Strong Story,

THE DRUNKARD 6s.

By the Author of "When It was Dark."

The World says:—"There is not a dull page in the book, although its purpose is to preach the gospel of predisposition, reversion and heredity. We find it clever, effective, important, and possessing much literary charm. It is true that the grim power of the narrative—its outspoken, uncompromising realism—makes it painful reading, but the author knows the artistic value of restraint, and never disgusts us."

THE DRUNKARD

At all Booksellers and Libraries.

A Thrilling Story by the Author of "Patcola."

AND THE STARS FOUGHT

By ENA FITZGERALD.

"She has developed that kind of love story which fascinates and never wearies."—*Western Mail*.

MICHAEL KAYE'S New Romance,

THE HONOUR OF BAYARD

By the Author of "The Cardinal's Past," &c.

WILLIAM CAINE'S Humorous Story,

OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW BETTER

By the Author of "Boom."

RATHMELL WILSON'S New Novel,

CRIMSON WINGS

By the Author of "Re-birth," &c.

GUY RAWLENCE'S New Novel,

A COMEDY OF HONOUR

By the Author of "The Romantic Road."

HARRIS BURLAND'S New Novel,

LORD OF IRONGRAY

By the Author of "The Financier," &c.

The Story of the Successful Musical Play at the Shaftesbury Theatre.

THE MOUSMÉ

By MICHAEL KAYE,

3s. 6d.

A Cheap Edition of **THE MOUSMÉ** is also issued at One Shilling Net.

A New Work by the Author of "Seen and Unseen."

THE COPING STONE

By E. KATHARINE BATES.

Crown 8vo. cloth, 3s. 6d.

The Very Latest and Up-to-Date DANCE MUSIC.

PLAYED AT ALL THE LEADING RESTAURANTS,
LONDON THEATRES, AND SMART DANCES.

THAIS WALTZ

(Dedicated to Miss Constance Collier).

By E. Cromwell Knox.

THE GLAD EYE TWO STEP.

By Ernest Bucalossi.

MIMOSA WALTZ.

By Alfred Margis.

PASSIONATA WALTZ.

By P. Codini.

LOVESEEKERS' WALTZ.

By Edward Hesso.

(Composer of "My Lady Dainty," &c.)

At all Music Sellers, 2s. each net.

SEND FOR LIST OF

(Dept. S.)

GREENING'S POPULAR CLASSICAL MUSIC

GREENING & CO., LTD., 91 St. Martin's Lane, W.C.

MR. HEINEMANN'S NEW BOOKS

NOW READY.

THE MANSIONS OF ENGLAND IN

THE OLDEN TIMES. By Joseph NASH. Introduction by REGINALD BLOMFIELD, A.R.A. With 104 Full-Page Plates (32 in Colour). Large 4to. 30s. net.

MICROBES AND TOXINS IN NATURE.

By Dr. ETIENNE BURNET. Preface by Prof. E. METCH-NIKOFF. Illustrated. Crown 8vo. 5s. net.

THE SELECTED WRITINGS OF

WILLIAM SHARP. VOL. I. POEMS. Edited by ELIZABETH A. SHARP. Uniform with the "Works of Fiona Macleod." To be completed in 5 vols. Crown 8vo. 6s. net each.

WAR AND ITS ALLEGED BENEFITS.

By J. NOVIKOW. Preface by NORMAN ANGELL (Author of "The Great Illusion"). Crown 8vo. 2s. 6d. net.

THE MODERN PARISIENNE.

By OCTAVE UZANNE. Introduction by BARONESS VON HUTTEN. Demy 8vo. 6s. net.

J. PIERPONT MORGAN. His Life Story.

By CARL HOVEY. Illustrated. Demy 8vo. 7s. 6d. net.

MOVING PICTURES.

By F. A. TALBOT. With 56 pp. of Illustrations. Demy 8vo. 6s. net.

The Prohibited Play.

THE NEXT RELIGION.

By ISRAEL

ZANGWILL. 2s. 6d. net.

"Written in the author's most virile and trenchant style."—*Daily News*.

NEW 6s. NOVELS

PASSION FRUIT

E. C. Vivian

HE WHO PASSED (To M. L. G.)

Anon

LITTLE BROTHER

Gilbert Cannan

ESTHER

Agnes E. Jacob

THE ADJUSTMENT

Marguerite Bryant

MARJORIE STEVENS

V. Taubman-Goldie

THE PRISON WITHOUT A WALL

Ralph Straus

MAIDS' MONEY

Mrs. H. Dudeney

THE REWARD OF VIRTUE (2nd Imp.)

Amber Reeves

JUGGERNAUT

E. F. Benson

A LIKELY STORY

Wm. De Morgan

THE DOP DOCTOR (12th Imp.)

Richard Dehan

WM. HEINEMANN, 21 Bedford Street, W.C.

MR. B. WENTWORTH VERNON, J.P., Chairman of the Ceylon Consolidated Rubber Estates, Ltd., says:—"Mr. William Wicherley, F.R.H.S., is one of the best-known authorities in the rubber world. I do not think that anybody living is a greater authority on rubber than he is. He has lately written a most interesting little book called 'The Whole Art of Rubber Growing,' and I strongly recommend it to all the shareholders, for they will find it very instructive and pleasant reading."

THE WHOLE ART OF RUBBER-GROWING

By W. WICHERLEY, F.R.H.S.

Now Ready. 5s. net.

Mr. Wicherley is a practical planter, and his book is the result of wide experience in various lands. The book is fully illustrated, and is written in a way which makes it as great a pleasure to read as its hints are valuable. Its principal contents are:—

TREES THAT COUNT: Hevea Brasiliensis,
Manihot Glaziovii,
The New Manihots,
The Ficus,
Funtumia Elastica,
and others.

INTERPLANTING, TAPPING SYSTEMS, COST OF
PLANTING, HABITS OF TREES, &c., &c.

WITH A SPECIAL CHAPTER ON THE SOYA BEAN.

Copies may be ordered through any Bookseller, or direct from
the office (5s. 4d. post free.)

THE WEST STRAND PUBLISHING CO., Ltd.,
10 King Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

RAND MINES, LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Transvaal).

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS OF A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special General Meeting of Shareholders in the Rand Mines, Limited, will be held in the Board Room, The Corner House, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, on Wednesday, the 5th day of June, 1912, at 10.45 a.m. for the following purpose:—

To consider and if thought fit to resolve, in pursuance of Article 80 of the Company's Articles of Association, that the maximum number of Directors be increased from seven to eight.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from 5th June to 11th June, 1912, both days inclusive.

HOLDERS OF SHARE WARRANTS TO BEARER wishing to be represented at the Meeting must deposit their Share Warrants, or may at their option produce same, at the places and within the times following:—

(a) At the Head Office of the Company in Johannesburg, at least twenty-four hours before the time appointed for the holding of the Meeting.

(b) At the London Office of the Company, No. 1 London Wall Buildings, E.C., at least thirty days before the date appointed for the holding of the Meeting.

(c) At the Compagnie Française de Banque et de Mines, 20, Rue Talbott, Paris, at least thirty days before the date appointed for the holding of the Meeting.

Upon such production or deposit a Certificate with Proxy Form will be issued, under which such Bearer Warrant Holders may attend the Meeting either in person or by proxy.

By Order of the Board,

A. MOIR,

London Secretary.

London Office, No. 1 London Wall Buildings, E.C.,

12th March, 1912.

Executors, Trustees, Solicitors, and Owners who may be desirous of selling Works of Art, Family Jewels, Old Silver, Furniture, Pictures, Prints, Miniatures, China, Coins, Books, Old Lace, Furs, Musical Instruments, Guns, and other Valuables, are informed that Messrs.

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY'S

SALE ROOMS, 20 HANOVER SQUARE, W., are Open Daily to receive goods intended for disposal.

Auctions of Estates and Town Properties and Sales on Owners' premises in all parts of the United Kingdom are held as required throughout the year. Large Funds available for Mortgages. Valuations for Estate and Legacy Duties. Farm Stock and Timber Sales. Management of Trust Estates and Receiverships undertaken.

No. 720 of SOTHERAN'S PRICE CURRENT OF LITERATURE

CONSISTS OF SECOND-HAND BOOKS ON

METEOROLOGY AND TERRESTRIAL MAGNETISM,

WITH A SUPPLEMENT OF WORKS ON

AIRMANSHIP.

HENRY SOTHERAN & CO.,

Booksellers to His Majesty the King,

140 STRAND, W.C., & 43 PICCADILLY, W.

Telegraphic Address: Bookmen, London. Codes: Unicode and A.B.C.

Telephones: (Strand) Central 1515. (Piccadilly) Mayfair 3601.

"Saturday" Bridge

Dalton's "Saturday" Bridge is admitted to be the standard work on the best of card games.

"Saturday" Bridge takes its name from the "Saturday Review," in which its chapters first appeared. It is now in its Eleventh Thousand and may be had of all booksellers 5s. net, or post free from the office of the "SATURDAY REVIEW," 10 King St., Covent Garden, 5s. 4d.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's

Chlorodyne

Insist on having
Dr. J. Collis Browne's
Chlorodyne
The ORIGINAL
and
ONLY GENUINE.

Purchasers should see that the name is on the stamp and emphatically refuse substitutes.

Universally acknowledged to be the
BEST and SUREST REMEDY for

COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.

The only Palliative in Cuts short all attacks of
NEURALGIA, SPASMS, HYSTERIA,
GOUT, TOOTHACHE, and
RHEUMATISM. PALPITATION.

Acts like a Charm in
DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, and DYSENTERY.

Convincing Medical Testimony with each Bottle.
Of all Chemists, 1/3, 2/9, 4/6

SELFRIDGE & CO., LTD.

Very Satisfactory Progress.
Winning the Public's Confidence.

THE fourth annual general meeting of Selfridge and Company, Limited, was held on Thursday on the premises, Oxford Street, Mr. H. Gordon Selfridge (Managing Director) presiding.

The Secretary (Mr. William Miles, F.C.I.S.) having read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said:—
"To-morrow this business is three years old, and during these three years the public have gradually changed their minds regarding the undertaking.

"Three years ago it was London's unanimous opinion that a large business could not be successfully established 'ready-made,' as it were. But to-day I believe that no one questions the strong and growing position which this house has made for itself. It is now not a question with the public as to its permanency, but instead only a question of the amount of its annual growth.

"The past year, which ended 31 January, has shown excellent progress, but its greatest increases occurred during the last six months. Our October, November and December returns were much larger than we had considered as reasonable to expect, and simply proved to ourselves and the entire staff the tremendous impetus which a great department store can quickly attain if conducted on energetic lines. Another reason for the rapid growth is no doubt that the purchasing public have learned to feel confidence in our advertisements and in what they are told at our different departments. Upon this point we are undeviating. We allow no word, no act, however insignificant, to pass which can in the slightest way misguide or deceive, and the public are growing to depend absolutely upon our statements, whether written or spoken.

"Our expenses for the year have been continually held well in hand, while, of course, the increase in the turnover has handsomely decreased the per cent. expense on all fixed items—such as rents, lighting, heating, maintenance, etc.

"Our gross profits are in percentage never excessive, but just as we wish them, and entirely satisfactory. Our well-known phrase, 'London's Lowest Prices—always,' has been maintained without difficulty, and we have no intention, now that the business is firmly established, of increasing our rate of profit; on the contrary, we have even found it possible in a number of sections and departments to instruct buyers that a less rate of profit would be expected this year than formerly. The very old adage of 'Large Sales and Small Profits' is one of the guiding policies of this house.

"The year of 1911 and its net result compares even more favourably with 1910 than appears by the balance sheet, because a year ago it seemed wise and entirely desirable to charge to preliminary expense account a certain percentage of our advertising for the year—the business was very young, it had no goodwill account, but was undoubtedly acquiring a certain good will in the minds of the public—this charge was accordingly made. Of course, during 1911 all expenses of every kind and nature have been charged to current account.

"Furthermore, the report a year ago was for but ten and a half months. It did not include the month of February and the first half of March, and this is usually a money-losing period, because returns are low and expenses continue about as usual. The present report is for twelve complete months, and the result shown is actually about twice as large as its predecessor.

"For the present year, of which six weeks have already passed, I may say that the increases shown, over a year ago, are highly satisfactory. During these six weeks, which, as I have already stated, are usually very quiet, we have shown the greatest increase in the history of the house, both in the percentage and in volume of business, and while we assume no rôle as prophets, I do not hesitate to anticipate a result a year from this time far in excess of the £50,000 which to-day's report shows.

"With our net profit of last year we propose paying our Debenture interest, Preference dividend, and while the balance could be used to pay a certain per cent. on the Ordinary shares, nothing is further from our intentions. We shall, instead, begin to mark off the item shown on the balance sheet as 'preliminary expenses,' and we shall hope to reduce this item and that of 'commission,' etc., by a much larger amount at the end of this fiscal year. We feel that neither of these items must have any place on our balance sheets a very few years from now.

"This business 'turned the corner' a long time ago, and now, as far as the eye can reach or the mind plan, we see ahead of us a straight road constantly ascending, which it will be our pleasure, duty, and privilege to climb and climb rapidly."

Mr. B. F. Popham seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

THE RUBBER WORLD. ONE PENNY WEEKLY.

This Week's Issue contains:

**DIVIDEND POSSIBILITIES OF CHIMPUL.
MR. KNOCKER'S DISCOVERIES.
THE WORLD OF FIBRE.
BRITISH BORNEO LABOUR.**

SUBSCRIPTION PER ANNUM, in the United Kingdom, 6/6;
Abroad, 8/8.

10 KING STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE CO.

THE PROGRESS OF THE SOCIETY.

THE ordinary general meeting of the Prudential Assurance Company, Limited, was held on March 7 at their offices, Holborn Bars, Mr. Thomas Charles Dewey (Chairman of the Company) presiding.

Mr. D. W. Stable (joint secretary) having read the notice, The Chairman said: The Prudential continues to progress. The total income of the Company during 1911 was £15,252,937, being an increase of £370,961 over the previous year. The income from premiums was £12,443,676, being an increase of £211,238, and the income from interest, dividends, and rents was £2,809,261, being an increase of £159,722. It will be interesting to notice how the total premium income is made up:—

£7,182,000 from weekly premiums.
£449,500 from monthly premiums.
£973,500 from quarterly premiums.
£483,000 from half-yearly premiums.
£3,356,000 from yearly premiums.

You will observe that all classes of assurers are provided for, the public having the option of coming in under whichever table suits them best. The margin allowed in the premiums for expenses differs according to the number of payments made per annum, as it is obvious that the expenses connected with the weekly collection of premiums must be heavy when compared even with a monthly and still more with a half-yearly or yearly collection. The monthly tables have only been a short time in existence, and although at present the amount of premium income under this heading is comparatively small, it is a rapidly growing amount. The weekly and monthly premiums paid through the industrial branch during the year amounted to £7,631,408. The yearly, half-yearly, and quarterly premiums paid through the ordinary branch amounted to £4,812,268. The new annual premium income for the year in this branch was £325,699, assuring the sum of £5,396,721. The mortality in both branches during the past year was well below the expectancy. The claims of the year in both branches, including bonus additions, amounted to £6,399,331, the endowment assurance policies in the ordinary branch being responsible for £2,324,130 of this amount, which is an increase of £180,000 over the previous year. The amount paid in cash for surrenders in each branch shows a reduction over the previous year. During the past year 140,617 policies have been surrendered in the industrial branch in exchange for free policies upon which no further premiums are payable; the number of these free policies now in force is 1,705,885, and the number of free policies that became claims last year was 43,668. It is worth mentioning that, notwithstanding the general depression and unrest in most trades during the past year, the applications from those who desired to discontinue the payment of their premiums and to accept free policies in the industrial branch showed a considerable reduction, the number of applications being 4,570 less than those received during 1910. In addition to these free policies, we have in force over 70,000 policies on which the future premiums have been remitted after age 75 has been attained, and on which over 25 years' premiums have been paid. During the year 1911, in accordance with this practice, 16,523 policy-holders were freed from the payment of future premiums, and we paid claims on 10,996 policies where the payment of premiums had previously been remitted. I will now pass on to the investments. The assets of the Company, as shown in the balance sheet for 1911, amount to £81,239,682, as compared with £77,529,226 at the end of the previous year. The increase of £3,710,456, however, by no means represents the actual investment work of the year, since owing to repayments the amount invested during the year exceeded £7,000,000. Great care has been devoted to the selection of these investments, and the shareholders may rest assured that there is nothing in our balance sheet of a risky or speculative nature. We believe that the greatest security and the smallest liability to temporary fluctuations are afforded by distributing our funds over as wide an area as possible, both in regard to the classes of security and to their geographical distribution. We have for some years past based our practice on this principle. As you are doubtless aware, it is now rendered compulsory by the Assurance Companies Act of 1909 for a certificate as to the value of the assets to accompany every valuation. You will find this certificate appended to the balance sheet. I may also refer to the manner in which we have dealt with our investment reserve funds. You will notice that we have transferred £250,000 to the fund in each branch, but that we have again thought it advisable to devote a portion of our reserve funds—namely, £175,000 in the ordinary branch and £200,000 in the industrial branch—to writing down various securities. The amount of our investment reserve funds is now £1,375,000, of which £775,000 is in the ordinary branch and £600,000 in the industrial branch. These sums are very much more than sufficient to cover any depreciation in either branch. I may also remind you that the unappropriated sum of £856,000 has been carried forward, and that sinking funds have been provided for all our terminable securities.

You will have seen from the report that we are in the happy position of being able to declare an increased rate of bonus in both branches of the Company. In the ordinary branch the rate has been increased from £1 14s. per cent. on the original sum assured to £1 16s. per cent. In the industrial branch the shareholders will remember that by our profit-sharing scheme, which is greatly appreciated throughout the country, any surplus profits beyond the fixed dividend which is paid to them quarterly is by the regulations of the Company to be divided into six parts—four-sixths to the policy-holders in the industrial branch, one-sixth to the outdoor staff, and one-sixth to the shareholders. I am glad to say we are able this year to distribute as bonus the sum of £540,000, being £90,000 more than the amount distributed last year. We propose to give 5 per cent. on all policies becoming claims upon which at least five but less than ten years' premiums have been paid; 10 per cent. on policies of ten years' duration, 15 per cent. on policies of fifteen years' duration, 20 per cent. on policies of twenty years' duration, 30 per cent. on policies of thirty years' duration, 40 per cent. on policies of forty years' duration, and 50 per cent. on policies of fifty years' duration and upwards. This is an increase over the rate declared last year of from 10 to 30 per cent. for all policies upon which thirty years' premiums have been paid. In both branches the question of the future has been carefully

studied, and we believe that the rate of bonus in the ordinary branch will not only be maintained, but that there is every probability of a further increase in years to come. In the industrial branch it is evident that in future a much larger sum will annually be required to keep up the present rate of bonus, because the average duration of the policies at risk steadily increases. This is best shown by an example. Last year I told you that we had 3,800,000 policies in force which had been in existence over twenty years. A year has now elapsed, and we have more than 4,100,000 policies in force of over twenty years' duration, an increase of 300,000 in one year. Therefore to maintain year by year the same bonus addition to the sums assured on all policies of over five years' duration as they become claims will be a great achievement and one which will afford to increasing numbers of our clients a stronger inducement to keep their policies in force, in order that they may become entitled to the higher percentage of bonus. The amount of cash which has been required for the policy-holders' bonus in both branches during the past five years is £6,125,000, of which £1,260,000 goes or has gone to industrial branch policies and represents the four-sixths of the surplus profits.

During the past year public attention has been directed to an attack which has been made upon the Company by a certain weekly journal. The directors had no difficulty in deciding at once that the right method of dealing with the attack was to treat it with the contempt which it deserved, and their decision was confirmed by some of the most distinguished counsel at the Bar. The directors intended at the proper time and place to make an authoritative statement on the subject, and the present is a convenient opportunity for so doing. It has been alleged that the directors and managers of the Company connive at irregularities on the part of their agents. On behalf of the directors and managers of the Company I say emphatically that there is not a particle of truth in the allegation. Let me deal briefly with the principal grounds upon which, as I understand, these allegations are based. For many years the Company have allowed a son or daughter to insure a parent whose age was over sixty and under seventy years for a reasonable sum to provide for funeral expenses, the proposal for the assurance being signed by the person whose life was to be assured. It is said that these policies were void because they did not comply with the terms of the Gambling Act of 1774. I believe that it has never yet been decided that funeral expenses in such circumstances did not constitute an insurable interest, but I prefer to give what I consider to be a practical and business answer to the allegation. It is this—that never yet have the Company repudiated one of these policies on such grounds. These policies have always been honoured at maturity, and as a rule it is only when the parent has lived so long that the insurance contract has become unprofitable to the person who insured that the technical points to which I have referred are raised against the Company for the purpose of recovering the whole of the premiums paid. Had the person whose life was insured died the day after the policy was effected the Company would have paid the full amount due. In the year 1909, at the instance of the Board of Trade, an Act was passed which removes the technical objections to which I have referred and justifies the view taken by the Company as to the necessity of such insurances by providing that not only may sons and daughters insure their parents, but also that persons may insure their grandparents, grandchildren, brothers, or sisters for a reasonable amount to cover funeral expenses. Another charge is that some agents have taken signatures for proposals for insurance in an irregular way. Any such action is directly contrary to the instructions under which all our agents work. I will not attempt to excuse any agent who may have done so; he deserves and will receive punishment for such an offence, if any such misconduct is proved. Ladies and gentlemen, after a close experience extending for upwards of fifty years with the Company's agents, I say without hesitation that as a body of men they do their work well and honestly, and they will bear favourable comparison with any other equally large body of men drawn I care not from what source. I need not further allude to this topic more than to say that the incident has afforded us the opportunity of proving the strength and confidence of our policy-holders, our shareholders, and the staff, especially the outdoor staff of the Company. As regards our staff, it was inevitable that many should suffer from the effects of such an attack, but, nothing daunted, each man pursued his way with confidence. The attack upon us has utterly failed, the high reputation and honour of the Company remain untouched, and the record of the year's work testifies to the honourable success we have achieved. I have given figures in reference to our policy-holders showing the reduction during the past year in the applications for the surrender of policies in each branch. May I state for the benefit of the shareholders that our transfer books show that out of the 200,000 shares of the Company 3,303 shares were sold last year, against 4,156 during 1910. There has been a steady increase in the number of persons holding shares in this Company; at the end of 1911 there were 1,144 share accounts open, an increase of seventy-two during the year.

In speaking of the National Insurance Bill last year I stated: "We of the Prudential feel that we have an organisation capable of dealing with the payments under the proposed Bill as economically and efficiently as any other body, and, if it is determined that the payments are to be made by other than Government officials, we feel that we ought to be given the option of employing our staff for that purpose—at any rate as far as our own policy-holders are concerned." The National Insurance Act has now been passed, and it contains provisions under which we are enabled to form an approved society for the purpose of working the national health insurance portion of the Act. The chief conditions laid down are (1) that such approved society shall not be carried on for profit, and (2) that it shall be self-governing. We are taking the necessary steps to form an approved society, and are of opinion that it would be wrong of us to allow our policy-holders to be compelled to join any approved society other than a Prudential one. I would say, in conclusion, that I hope everyone interested in the affairs of the Prudential will spare the time necessary to make himself thoroughly conversant with the details of its sixty-third annual report, since I feel confident that he will by this means find unqualified satisfaction in the strength and resources of the Company. I beg now formally to move: "That the report of the directors and the accounts certified by the auditors be received and adopted."

The Deputy-Chairman (Sir William Lancaster) seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously without discussion.

At the close of the ordinary meeting an extraordinary general meeting was held at which it was resolved to make an addition to the regulations authorising the subdivision of the shares of the Company into shares of "£1 each or less."

MACMILLAN'S NEW BOOKS

The HARRY FURNESS EDITION of THACKERAY is now complete in 20 volumes with over 2,000 illustrations, and is supplied on the instalment system by easy payments. For full particulars see Mr. HARRY FURNESS'S new pamphlet, "How and Why I Illustrated Thackeray," sent free on application to the publishers, Macmillan & Co., Ltd., St. Martin's Street, London, W.C.

"Of abounding human interest."

Ruins of Desert Cathay.

Personal Narrative of Explorations in Central Asia and Westernmost China.

By M. AUREL STEIN.

With numerous Illustrations, Colour Plates, Panoramas, and Maps from Original Surveys. 2 vols. Royal 8vo. 42s. net.

The Field.—"The book will take its place, not merely as the leading work of travel published this season, but as one of the finest and best works of travel ever published."

SECOND IMPRESSION.

Tennyson and His Friends.

Edited by HALLAM, LORD TENNYSON. With Portraits. 8vo. 10s. net.

The Passing of War: A STUDY IN THINGS THAT MAKE FOR PEACE.

By the Rev. Canon W. L. GRANE, Author of "The Word and the Way," &c. 8vo. 7s. 6d. net.

A MAN OF KENT in the *British Weekly*.—"I have no hesitation in describing it as one of the most forcible and cogent pleas for peace that has ever been published. It is fully and distinctively Christian; it is well-written; it is marked by eminent sanity; and, though the writer is not in any sense a crank, he is full of earnestness."

An Introduction to the Study of Prices, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE HISTORY OF THE 19TH CENTURY.

By WALTER T. LAYTON, M.A. Crown 8vo. 2s. 6d. net.

The Athenæum.—"It is rarely that a book which is badly wanted is as good as Mr. Layton's. . . . The book should be read by all who are interested in one of the burning questions of the day."

Common Land and Inclosure.

By E. C. K. GONNER, Professor of Economic Science in the University of Liverpool. With four Maps. 8vo. 12s. net.

Country Life.—"This is a book to be read; but it is also most emphatically one for the reference library to be freely consulted and carefully studied."

Milk and the Public Health.

By WILLIAM G. SAVAGE, B.Sc., M.D. Lond., D.P.H., County Medical Officer of Health, Somerset, &c. 8vo. 10s. net.

Athenæum.—"A valuable book of reference for all scientific experts and administrators."

NEW NOVELS.

The Victories of Olivia and other Stories.

By EVELYN SHARP, Author of "The Youngest Girl in the School," &c. Extra crown 8vo. 6s.

Sphere.—"We can heartily recommend the collection of short stories. . . . Not only are they very entertaining, but they also give cause to think."

The Charwoman's Daughter.

By JAMES STEPHENS. Extra crown 8vo. 3s. 6d. net.

Athenæum.—"Charming. . . . Through every scene runs a twisted thread of humorous observation and of kindness somewhat akin to the spirit of 'Wee Macgregor'; but the humour of 'The Charwoman's Daughter' is subtler, and its literary style is far finer. Some bits of description are exquisite."

MACMILLAN & CO., LTD., LONDON.

R. B. CUNNINGHAME GRAHAM'S NEW BOOK.

Charity

A new volume by the man who ranks as the most brilliant contemporary writer of English that we have. A wonderful style, absolute fearlessness of expression, and a most original point of view, are particular characteristics of all his writing. "Charity" is a book for adults with broad mind and wide sympathies. It will delight the critical reader who can appreciate bits of life in all parts of the world, painted in a few powerful strokes by a master.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

"FAITH," "HOPE," "HIS PEOPLE," "PROGRESS," "SUCCESS."

Of Mr. Cunningham-Graham's work the *Athenæum* says:—"One realises that this author stands out from among his fellows, since Stevenson died, as the embodiment of one thing in literature . . . that rare thing, charm . . . Full of literary distinction."

Crown 8vo. 6s.

GEORGE BOURNE'S NEW BOOK

Change in the Village

A Study of the English Village of to-day.

By the Author of "A Surrey Labourer," "The Bettesworth Book."

"Books more thoughtful and more provocative of thought than Mr. Bourne's seldom appear, and he treats of a problem that is, perhaps, the most important of all the teeming problems of England. This volume, like its predecessors, none can afford to overlook."—*Standard*.

Crown 8vo. 5s., net (postage 4d.).

From the Forest.

By SCOTT PALMER

Author of "Pilgrim Man" ("The Roadmender" Series).

Fcap. 8vo. cloth gilt, 2s. 6d. net (postage 3d.).

Yagrom Men

By A. T. STORY

A Book for Wayfarers. A Volume of Essays in the style of Hazlitt ("The Roadmender" Series).

Fcap. 8vo. cloth gilt, 2s. 6d. net (postage 3d.).

NOTABLE NEW FICTION.

JOHN TRAVERS' NEW NOVEL.

In the World of Bewilderment

"An Anglo-Indian novel (by the Author of 'Sahib Log') presenting a drama of one man and two women—Major Grant, his wife, simple, brave, and homely, and the fascinating, soulless siren who must always have a man at her feet. The struggle for the man is depicted with much true feeling and real knowledge of life and human nature."—*Times*.

Crown 8vo. 6s.

A new writer, ARTHUR H. HOLMES

Twinkle

A THOUGHTFUL NOVEL OF ENGLISH COUNTRY LIFE

"It is an extraordinary accomplished first novel, and the publishers are to be congratulated on their judgment in the selection of new fiction."

Crown 8vo. 6s.

A CORNISH NOVEL.

In the West Wind

By A. B. LE SAGE

"Mr. Le Sage knows his Cornwall and its inhabitants well, and his account of a Cornish mining villager and the tricks and manners of the villagers reads like a transcript of life, the greed, selfishness, and dishonesty of these somewhat picturesque people being in high relief."—*Pail Mail Gazette*.

"Redolent of Cornwall in characters and environment. A clever study of characteristics and customs. A story that is of real interest, will appeal to all lovers of Cornish stories. Breezy and exhilarating in style, and the characters are skilfully drawn."—*Western Daily Press*.

Crown 8vo. 6s.

A story of a Woman sacrificed to a genius.

Tony Unregenerate

By JANET DODGE

"Antonia or 'Tony' has the most bitterly serious problems to confront that life could well offer her. Italy, Art and Music. A tragic look, sincere and ably written."—*Evening Standard*.

Crown 8vo. 6s.

RICHARD HARDING DAVIS'S NEW BOOK.

The Man who could not Lose

Stories. Illustrated. Crown 8vo. 6s.

A new and cheaper edition of a notable book.

In the Foreign Legion

Erwin Rosen's realistic account of life in the French Foreign Legion.

"A fine book."—*Punch*.

"A fascinating, vivid record of actual experiences."—*Country Life*.

Large Crown 8vo. 3s. 6d. net.

DUCKWORTH & CO., COVENT GARDEN, LONDON.